FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

29 MARCH 1984

Lebanon

Beirut Situation — The security situation "seriously deteriorated" on 28 March as over 20 persons were killed and 100 others were wounded in "indiscriminate" shelling of residential quarters in and around the capital, Beirut radio reported. The shelling was concentrated on the western sector where several men from the Lebanese Army's 6th Brigade were among the casualties, the radio said. Artillery and rocket fire also hit Christian East Beirut and the coastal area up to Antilyas, according to Voice of Lebanon radio. Earlier, an unidentified gunman killed a French lieutenant near the Saudi Embassy in West Beirut, the clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio reported.

In the wake of the renewed fighting, both the Security Arrangements Committee and the Higher Political Security Committee held meetings to discuss the security situation, according to Beirut radio. The Higher Political Security Committee, which met in the Presidential Palace under President Amin al-Jumayyil's chairmanship, agreed on "several points" and decided to stop the indiscriminate shelling of residential quarters and open the Museum road under the supervision of the Internal Security Forces, the radio said. The Security Arrangements Committee approved measures for the replacement of the French force, which is expected to operate for several days in conjunction with the Internal Security Forces before withdrawing from Beirut. Despite the withdrawal of its troops, France has agreed to send a 40-man military observation team to Beirut to monitor the cease-fire, AFP reported citing an External Relations Ministry announcement.

In another development, the clandestine Voice of Arab Lebanon radio has resumed transmissions and was heard broadcasting a message from Al-Murabitun leader Ibrahim Qulaylat.

Southern Lebanon — Beirut radio reported that 7 people were killed and 30 others were wounded in clashes with Israeli soldiers in the southern township of Jibshit. IDF Radio said the clashes were between Shi'ite villagers and the "southern Lebanese army," which killed 3 villagers and wounded 10 others in an exchange of fire. Several dozen inhabitants were arrested in connection with recent attacks on the IDF, which include an incident on 28 March in which two IDF soldiers were wounded in an ambush north of An-Nabatiyah, according to IDF Radio.

Iran-Iraq War

The Greek tanker hit by an Iraqi missile on 28 March was some 110 km southwest of Khark Island near the Saudi coast at the time of the incident, IRNA announced citing remarks by a spokesman for Iran's War Information Headquarters. Overwhelmed by "war jitters" and frustrated by "repeated political and military defeats," Iraq has resorted to "adventurism" and "insane activities" to create the impression that the Persian Gulf is unsafe, the spokesman added. Since Iran is doing all it can to maintain security in the region, the "whole responsibility" for any mishap jeopardizing the Gulf rests with Iraq, he warned.

Meanwhile, the Iranian military communique broadcast by Tehran radio on 28 March reported that 47 civilians were killed and over 84 were injured in the 27 March Iraqi bombing of the Andimeshk and Pol-e Dokhtar districts of Khorramabad.

Libya

Unless the United States "immediately withdraws" from Egypt and Sudan, Libya will "seriously" consider altering the strategic balance in the area by offering facilities on the Libyan coast to "a superpower which is hostile to the United States," thereby rendering "worthless" U.S. and NATO installations in the Mediterranean, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi declared in a speech broadcast by Tripoli radio. Regarding relations with Egypt, Al-Qadhdhafi announced that Libya will ease travel restrictions and allow free movement of Libyans and Egyptians in both directions. Nevertheless, the Egyptian regime will remain on the "blacklist" unless it emerges from the "Camp David stable," in which case Libya will place all its resources at Egypt's disposal, the Libyan leader affirmed.

Syria

Five men, including a policeman, were executed in Damascus on 28 March for criminal activities ranging from robbery to desertion from military service, SANA announced.

PLO Affairs

Despite the events in northern Lebanon last year, "we want to point out our availability to open a new page with the Syrian Brothers," PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat said in remarks reported by APS. Meanwhile, the DFLP, PFLP, the Palestine Liberation Front, and the Palestinian Communist Party issued a joint statement calling for a "wider national front within the framework of the PLO," Aden radio stated. This invitation is open to all factions and personalities and is not meant to be an alternative to the PLO, nor would it set up establishments parallel to it, the four groups stated.

Iran

According to the Interior Ministry, two suspects have been arrested in connection with the 28 March assassination attempts against two Turkish diplomats in Tehran, IRNA reported. Investigations into the identity of another "terrorist" who was killed earlier while attempting to plant a bomb in a car belonging to the Turkish ambassador to Tehran determined that he was a member of an "Armenian terrorist group," Tehran radio added.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Middle East & Africa

Vol V No 062 *29 March 1984*

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW i

INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

'Arafat on U.S. Embassy Move to Jerusalem *[Baghdad Voice of PLO]* ..... A 1
PLO Urges Meeting To Discuss Embassy Move *[QNA]* ..... A 1
PLO-Jordan Committee Meets Algerian Minister *[Amman]* ..... A 1
Amman Political Prisoners' Statement Quoted *[Palestinian Voice of National Unity]* ..... A 1
Arab League's Omran Criticizes U.S., Iranian Policy *[Vienna DIE PRESSE 28 Mar]* ..... A 2

ARABIAN PENINSULA

BAHRAIN

Algerian Envoy Messaadia Visits for Talks ..... C 1
Amir Receives Bendjedid Message ..... C 1
Messaadia Departs for Baghdad ..... C 1

KUWAIT

Defense Minister To Visit U.S., USSR for Talks ..... C 1
Foreign Minister Receives Saudi Envoy, Message ..... C 1
AL-QABAS Views National Security Issue *[28 Mar]* ..... C 1

OMAN

Diplomatic Relations Established With St Lucia ..... C 2

PDRY

Palestinian Visitors, Others Hold Talks ..... C 2
YSP Chairman Receives Visitors ..... C 2
Chairman Receives PFLP's Habash ..... C 2
DFLP Leader Hawatimah Departs ..... C 2
Palestinian Factions Issue Statement ..... C 2
DPRK Vice Premier Arrives for Visit, Talks ..... C 3
Bulgarian Official Departs After Visit ..... C 3

QATAR

GULF TIMES Urges Renewed UK Role in Mideast *[28 Mar]* ..... C 3

SAUDI ARABIA

King Fahd Receives U.S. Envoy Rumsfeld ..... C 3
Commentary Views Proposed U.S. Embassy Move ..... C 3

UAE

AL-WAHDAH Urges Meeting on U.S. Embassy Move *[29 Mar]* ..... C 4
Conference Urges Ensuring Rights of Gulf Women *[KHALEEJ TIMES 28 Mar]* ..... C 4
Briefs: Ash-Shariqah Oil Production ..... C 5

EGYPT

Mubarak at Conference Reacts to Libyan Threats ..... D 1
Further Reportage on Visit of Malian President ..... D 1
Holds News Conference ..... D 1
Concludes Visit, Departs ..... D 1
GDR Minister Departs After 4-Day Visit ..... D 2
Rome LA REPUBBLICA Interviews Kamal Hasan 'Ali *[24 Mar]* ..... D 2
AL-AHRAM on Anniversary of Treaty With Israel *[26 Mar]* ..... D 3

IRAQ

Navy, Air Force Destroy Iranian Targets 29 Mar ..... E 1
Armed Forces Communique No 1,418 - 28 March ..... E 1
Monte Carlo Interviews Foreign Minister 'Aziz ..... E 1
President Sends Condolences to Guinea Government ..... E 3
Tariq 'Aziz Leaves For Arab League Meeting 28 Mar ..... E 3
Poland's Obodowski Leaves Baghdad 28 Mar ..... E 3

JORDAN

Queen Elizabeth Arrives in Aqaba 28 March ..... F 1
Husayn Sends Cable on Death of Sekou Toure ..... F 1
Israeli Efforts To Stop U.S., U.K. Missile Sales Scored ..... F 1
SAWT ASH-SHA'B on U.S. Aid to Israel, EEC Statement ..... F 2

LEBANON

Higher Political-Security Committee Meets 28 Mar ..... G 1
Al-Jumayyil Chairs Meeting ..... G 1
Further on Meeting ..... G 1
Further on Contacts Regarding French Withdrawal ..... G 1
Security Committee Meets 28 Mar ..... G 1
Handover of Positions Begins ..... G 2
Rumsfeld, U.S. Envoy Meet Salim 28 March ..... G 2
RFL: Armed Amal Demonstration Near U.S. Embassy ..... G 2
USSR's Brutents To Visit Beirut 'Next Week' ..... G 2
VOAL Carries Qulaylat Message on Beirut, Struggle ..... G 2
VOL: PSP Reportedly Kidnapping Amal Followers ..... G 2
Amal Denies Reports ..... G 2
Birri Comments on Events in South, Beirut *[Voice of the Mountain]* ..... G 2
Reaction, Situation Following Jibshit Clashes ..... G 3
Birri Urges Strike in An-Nabatiyah *[Voice of the Mountain]* ..... G 3
Beirut: Seven Inhabitants Killed ..... G 3
PSP on Lebanese Forces' Withdrawal From Al-Kharrub *[Voice of the Mountain]* ..... G 3
Israeli Convoy Proceeds to Iqlim al-Kharrub *[Radio Free Lebanon]* ..... G 3

SYRIA

U.S. Mideast Policy, Rumsfeld Tour Criticized ..... H 1
Request for ADF Return to Beirut Opposed *[AS-SIYASAH 27 Mar]* ..... H 1
Assembly Speaker Az-Zu'bi Meets Lebanonese Official ..... H 2
Arab People's Conference Meets in Damascus ..... H 2
Foreign Minister Leaves for Arab League Meeting ..... H 2
Ba'th Party's Al-Ahmar Receives Libyan Official ..... H 2
Minister Qaddurah To Attend Sekou Toure Funeral ..... H 3
Foreign Minister Receives Delegation From Oregon ..... H 3
Five Criminals Executed in Damascus Square ..... H 3
Cabinet Approves State Budget for 1984 ..... H 3

ISRAEL

Jerusalem Opposes Reported British-Jordanian Deal ..... I 1
Foreign Ministry States Position *['AL HAMISHMAR 28 Mar]* ..... I 1
Herzog on Palestinian Problem, Queen's Remarks ..... I 1
Supplementary Budget Passes Third Reading ..... I 1
Knesset Approves Budget 57-52 ..... I 1
Foreign Ministry Reacts to EC Announcement *[HA'ARETZ 28 Mar]* ..... I 1
Press on Jerusalem Issue, Camp David Accords ..... I 1
Pentagon Reportedly Indignant Over Arens Remarks *[HA'ARETZ 28 Mar]* ..... I 2
Romanian Minister Pay Visit To Encourage Tourism ..... I 2
Tourism to PRC Discussed *[MA'ARIV 27 Mar]* ..... I 2
Further Tourism Ventures Planned *[THE JERUSALEM POST 28 Mar]* ..... I 2
Visit Ends 28 March ..... I 3
Soviet Delegation Members on Relations With Israel *[HA'ARETZ 28 Mar]* ..... I 3
Terrorist Group Threatens German Plants, Workers ..... I 4
Minister Ne'eman on Further Settlement Plans *[BAMAHANE 28 Mar]* ..... I 4
New Settlement Drive Planned Before Elections ..... I 4
Civilian Administration Against West Bank Elections ..... I 4
West Bank School Closed Following 27 Mar Incidents *[HA'ARETZ 28 Mar]* ..... I 4
Two Wounded by Israelis ..... I 4
National Security Law for Jews in Territories *[HADASHOT 27 Mar]* ..... I 5
Arab Committee Land Day Events Authorized ..... I 5
Disturbances Reported in Connection With Land Day ..... I 5
Deterrent Moves Initiated *['AL HAMISHMAR 29 Mar]* ..... I 5
Three IDF Soldiers Slightly Wounded in Gaza Strip ..... I 6
Villagers Killed in Clash With Southern Lebanon Army ..... I 6
Jibshit Suspects Arrested ..... I 6
Burial Services Prohibited ..... I 6
IDF Soldiers Wounded in Lebanon Explosion ..... I 6
Ilia Appointed To Head Lebanon Liaison Unit ..... I 6
Christian Refugees Return North of Al-Awwali ..... I 7
Refugee Return Continues ..... I 7
Portuguese Prime Minister Accepts Invitation To Visit ..... I 7

NORTH AFRICA

ALGERIA

Niger Prime Minister Comments on Talks Before Leaving ..... Q 1
Diplomat Discusses Iraq-Iran Mediation Efforts *[Kuwait AS-SIYASAH 27 Mar]* ..... Q 1

LIBYA

Al-Qadhdhafi Warns U.S. To Withdraw From Region ..... Q 1
At-Turayki Blasts U.S. 'Aggressive Policy' at UN *[KUNA]* ..... Q 6
Congo-Lumumba Movement Says It Committed Zaire ..... Q 7
Romanian Vice President Manescu Concludes Visit ..... Q 7

MOROCCO

Islamic Ambassadors See Shultz Over Jerusalem Embassy ..... Q 7
Arab League Informed About Hassan-Reagan Exchange ..... Q 7
Communique Orders National Mourning for Sekou Toure ..... Q 7

SUDAN

Foreign Minister Addresses UN Security Council ..... Q 7
Libyan Pilots in Omdurman Raid Reportedly Promoted ..... Q 8
Numayri Extends Condolences on Death of Toure ..... Q 8

Central Leadership Ends Meetings, Issues Resolutions ..... Q 8

TUNISIA

SDF Party Seeking To Form Opposition Front *[KUNA]* ..... Q 9

EAST AFRICA

ETHIOPIA

DPRK Deputy Foreign Minister Arrives 28 March ..... R 1
Meets With Goshu Wolde ..... R 1

KENYA

DAILY NATION: 57 Killed by Troops in Wajir *[28 Mar]* ..... R 1
Report Called Inaccurate ..... R 1

TANZANIA

Government Pledges 'All-Round Support' for ANC *[KNA]* ..... R 2
22 CCM Party Branch Secretaries Dismissed ..... R 2

UGANDA

Obote Addresses Opening of Parliament ..... R 2

WEST AFRICA

GHANA

Protest Notes to U.S., Togo, Ivory Coast Embassies ..... T 1
Rawlings Sends Condolences on Sekou Toure's Death ..... T 1
1984 Budget Statement Presented 27 March ..... T 1
Government Raises Prices of Petroleum Products ..... T 4

GUINEA

Political Bureau Statement on Sekou Toure Wake ..... T 4
Mauroy To Attend Sekou Toure Funeral for France *[Paris]* ..... T 5

NIGER

Kountche Message to Beavogui on Sekou Toure Death ..... T 5
Government Will Not Toleratre Heresy, Minister Warns *[AFP]* ..... T 5

NIGERIA

Tribunal Prepares To Try Detained Politicians ..... T 5
Tribunal Members Sworn In ..... T 5
Idiagbon Briefs Tribunal ..... T 6
Idiagbon To Lead Delegation to Sekou Toure Rites ..... T 6
Offer Made at UN To Help Solve Libya-Sudan Dispute ..... T 6
Flight Crew Strike Ends; Services Resume ..... T 6
Iranian Official Ends Talks, Leaves for Guinea *[AFP]* ..... T 6
404 Expatriate Bauchi Teachers To Be Let Go ..... T 7

TOGO

OAU's Onu Meets With Eyadema on Summit *[AFP]* ..... T 7
Ghana Delegation Head Speaks on Good-Neighborliness ..... T 7

UPPER VOLTA

CNR Condemns 'Counterrevolutionary' Acts in Ghana ..... T 7
Teachers Who Participated in Strikes Dismissed ..... T 8
Sankara Sends Message of Support to Rawlings ..... T 9
Communique Issued at End of Cuban Minister's Visit ..... T 9

SOUTHERN AFRICA

ANGOLA

Sumbe Rally Protests UNITA Infiltration Attempt ..... U 1
French Official Meets With Foreign Minister Jorge ..... U 1

LESOTHO

RSA-Backed Alliance Seen Encountering Problems ..... U 1

MOZAMBIQUE

Foreign Minister Chissano Comments on Japan Trip ..... U 1

NAMIBIA

Damara Council Invited To Rejoin Multiparty Conference ..... U 1

SOUTH AFRICA

Finance Minister Delivers Budget Speech in Assembly ..... U 2
Excerpts of Horwood Speech *[RAND DAILY MAIL 29 Mar]* ..... U 2
'Ad Hoc Budget' Assailed ..... U 3
Opposition Parties Attack Budget ..... U 3

SWAZILAND

Foreign Minister Dlamini Hails RSA Water Agreement ..... U 3
KaNgwane Chiefs Meet at Foreign Ministry *[THE SWAZI OBSERVER 29 Mar]* ..... U 4

ZIMBABWE

Government Mum on Hwange Power Station Blast *[Radio Truth]* ..... U 4

'Arafat on U.S. Embassy Move to Jerusalem

JN281733 Baghdad Voice fo PLO in Arabic 1616 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] Brother Commander Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] has affirmed that the United States' intention to move its embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem violates United Nations and Security Council resolutions on Jerusalem, resolutions which consider Jerusalem an Arab city. In a press statement published in Tunis yesterday, Abu 'Ammar said that the PLO called for a meeting of Arab and Islamic foreign ministers to discuss the attempt to move the U.S. Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem.

Concerning developments in the Palestinian arena, Abu 'Ammar explained that contacts are currently taking place for the convocation of the Fatah general congress and the PNC in order to reach agreement on a future strategy for the Palestinian revolution's march.

Concluding his statement, Abu 'Ammar described his recent talks with King Husayn as successful and constructive.

PLO Urges Meeting To Discuss Embassy Move

GF290710 Doha QNA in Arabic 0630 GMT 29 Mar 84

[Text] Tunis, 29 Mar (QNA) — The QNA correspondent in Tunis has learned from Arab League sources that the PLO yesterday asked that an Islamic foreign ministers conference be included [on the agenda of the Arab League's 81st session] to discuss the repeated aggressions committed by the Israeli enemy against the city of Jerusalem and the attempts to move the U.S. Embassy to the holy city. The PLO, which asked that this issue be discussed during the Arab League Council's 81st session in Tunis today, noted that Algeria had agreed to host this conference in mid-April following contacts which had been held between the PLO and the Algerian Government.

In another memorandum, the PLO asked that the issue of Palestinian passports be included on the session's agenda and requested the formation of a technical committee under the Arab League secretary general to implement the resolution which was adopted in 1977 on Palestinian passports.

The QNA correspondent has learned that the Arab League Council will discuss the Arab countries' nomination for the post of assistant Arab League secretary general. Three people will be nominated for this position: Ibrahim as-Sa'd Ibrahim from Saudi Arabia, Akhbar Ibrahimi from Algeria, and Mahdi Mustafa al-Hadi from Sudan.

PLO-Jordan Committee Meets Algerian Minister

JN281922 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] The Jordanian-Palestinian joint committee for bolstering the steadfastness of the Palestinian people in the occupied territories held a round of talks with Algerian Foreign Minister Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi in Algiers today. The talks dealt with issues concerning the Arab citizens in occupied Palestine and means to support their steadfastness in the face of Zionist settlements and aggression plans. The talks also dealt with the educational, cultural, social, and economic conditions of the Arab citizens.

The Jordanian-Palestinian committee comprises Dr Jawad al-'Anani, minister of industry, trade, and tourism; and Khalil al-Wazir, deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces.

Amman Political Prisoners' Statement Quoted

JN290818 (Clandestine) Palestinian Voice of National Unity in Arabic 1700 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] The political prisoners in Al-Mahattah prison have submitted a political memorandum of protest to the agent royal regime's authorities in which they express their stands on current issues and describe what is taking place inside Jordanian prisons. The following is the text of the memorandum:

We political prisoners, members of the Palestinian resistance movement and the Jordanian nationalist movement in Al-Mahattah Prison in Amman, declare our unanimous stand which adheres to the PLO — the Palestinian people's sole legitimate representative — and reject all proposed U.S. plans, including the Reagan plan, its supplements, and the Camp David accords. We hereby confirm our right to be released, and we thus demand our release by all possible means. Therefore, we declare an open hunger strike as of 3 March 1984 and stress the following demands:

1. The immediate release of all political detainees who were held without trial and recognition of the demands of those who observed the strike from 30 January 1984 to 4 February 1984.

2. The revocation of the unjust sentences issued by the military court following mock and unjust trials. This demand is not imaginary, but was expressed by the state through the private amnesty laws which, in arbitrary implementation of the decisions of this unjust court, excluded most of us.

3. The release of the detainees from our occupied territory who came to Jordan to study, with permits for a limited period, and which the Israeli authorities refused to renew. Thus, if they are not released, they are threatened with losing their right to return to the occupied territory.

4. The reconsideration of the legality of detaining citizens because of their ideologies, political convictions, or struggle against the Zionist enemy. The political detainment of both the Jordanian and Palestinian citizens will rob them of their role as citizens who represent real affiliation to their land and people.

We appeal to all nationalist and democratic people who believe in the rights of the human being and the citizen, whether they are individuals or organizations, to support our just demands.

[Signed] The political prisoners in Al-Mahattah Prison

Arab League's Omran Criticizes U.S., Iranian Policy

AU281224 [Editorial Report] Vienna *DIE PRESSE* in German on 28 March on page 2, carries a 250-word report on a Vienna press conference on 27 March by Adnan Omran, deputy secretary general of the Arab League, who is currently in Vienna to attend an "Arab Week" sponsored by the Society for Austrian-Arab Relations. The paper notes that Omran "expressed particularly strong criticism of the U.S. engagement in Lebanon," and says in this context:

"Under Israeli pressure the United States — which, according to Omran does not play a role of its own in the Middle East — urged the Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil to conclude the troop withdrawal agreement, which was 'still-born' from the very beginning. Only the termination of this agreement and the results of the Lausanne reconciliation conference give rise to hope for a resolution of the Lebanese conflict, he said. How dependent the United States is on Israel is also shown, the Omran's opinion, by the fact that in the U.S. election campaign the presidential candidates are outdoing one another with pro-Israeli statements in order to win the votes of the 'Zionist groups.'"

Vienna *ARBEITER-ZEITUNG* in German on 28 March on page 3, carries a 300-word report on Omran's press conference, noting that he "described the Iranian-Iraqi war as the most tragic conflict since World War II." The paper writes in this context:

"Since the outbreak of the armed conflict the Arab League has endeavored to end the war, Omran said, but it has failed in all its mediation attempts owing to the Iranian attitude. Iraq, on the other hand, has shown interest in all the proposals aimed at settling the conflict. Asked about the use of chemical weapons by Iraq, Omran said that the Arab League absolutely condemns such warfare. Within the Arab League there are of course some differences, but they should not be overrated. In essential questions the League's member countries always find a common language, he said. In this connection Omran expressed the hope that Egypt would also soon find its way back into the Arab League."

BAHRAIN

Algerian Envoy Messaadia Visits for Talks

GF282000 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1840 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] Manama, 28 Mar (WAKH) — Mr Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, member of the Politburo and the official in charge of the FLN Central Committee Permanent Secretariat, arrived in Manama from Kuwait on a 1-day visit to Bahrain. The Algerian official is carrying a message from Algerian President Chadli Benjedid to Bahraini Amir Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah on the current situation in the Arab arena.

Mr Mohamed Cherif Messaadia's visit to Bahrain is part of his tour of a number of the region's countries, during which he will deliver similar messages.

Amir Receives Bendjedid Message

GF290849 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0745 GMT 29 Mar 84

[Text] Manama, 29 Mar (Wakh) — The amir of Bahrain, His Highness Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah has received a written message from Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid dealing with a number of issues of common interest, and the Iraqi-Iranian war. The message, which was conveyed by Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, member of the FLN Political Bureau and the official in charge of the Central Committee Permanent Secretariat during his meeting with the amir in Manama this morning, also dealt with the current developments in the Arab Maghreb and other Arab and international issues.

In a statement after the meeting, Messaadia said he discussed with his highness the amir of Bahrain the issues contained in the message. Asked on whether there are new efforts being made by Algeria to stop the Iraq-Iran war, Messaadia said: Right from the beginning, Algeria has been making efforts with African and Islamic countries to stop this war. Messaadia also expressed appreciation to His Highness Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah for his response to and understanding of the proposed Arab causes.

The audience was attended by Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah, minister of foreign affairs; Shaykh Khalid ibn 'Abdallah Al Khalifah, minister of housing; and Khaldi el-Hasnaoui, Algerian ambassador to Bahrain.

Messaadia Departs for Baghdad

GF290851 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0820 GMT 29 Mar 84

[Excerpt] Manama, 29 Mar (WAKH) — Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, member of the FLN Political Bureau and the official in charge of the Central Committee Permanent Secretariat, left Manama for Baghdad this morning after a 1-day visit to the State of Bahrain, in the framework of his current tour of a number of countries in the region.

KUWAIT

Defense Minister To Visit U.S., USSR for Talks

GF291018 Doha QNA in Arabic 0853 GMT 29 Mar 84

[Text] Kuwait, 29 Mar (QNA) — Kuwaiti Minister of Defense Shaykh Salim Sabah as-Salim has stated that he will visit the United States next week to hold talks with U.S. Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger on military cooperation between the two countries.

In a statement published in the Kuwaiti newspaper *AL-WATAN* today, the Kuwaiti minister of defense said he will also visit the Soviet Union, most likely in September, to hold similar talks.

Foreign Minister Receives Saudi Envoy, Message

LD281636 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1549 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] Kuwait, 28 Mar (KUNA) — Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir, deputy prime minister, minister of foreign affairs and minister of information, received at noon today Saudi Ambassador to Kuwait Shaykh Muhammad Fahd al-'Isa.

Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad told KUNA that the ambassador conveyed to him a message from his brother, Saudi foreign minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, which includes an explanation of the results of the visit to Riyadh by Algerian Foreign Minister Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, and of the discussion of developments in the Iraq-Iran war.

AL-QABAS Views National Security Issue

GF281946 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0800 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Excerpt] The Kuwaiti newspaper *AL-QABAS* stressed that infringement on Kuwaiti security bears a high price, which must be paid by whoever tries to disturb this security. The paper emphasized that Kuwait must remain an oasis of security and safety in the region.

On the subject of the court sentences for last December's explosions which shook Kuwait's security, the paper commented that the Kuwaiti judiciary carried out its duty without any panic. This was clear throughout the court sessions, which gave ample opportunity to the accused to defend themselves.

The paper emphasized that lowering the curtain on this matter, which was one of the most dangerous to threats to the country's security and its unity, does not mean everything has been settled by sending the criminals to prisons or to the scaffolds. The paper pointed out that the security case did not end yesterday, as did the case of the explosions, and that the government held much of the responsibility for preserving Kuwait's security and its people's peace of mind, and that the citizens held just as much responsibility.

AL-QABAS noted that defending the country's security is, like self-defense, a legitimate right.

OMAN

Diplomatic Relations Established With St Lucia

GF281400 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] A joint communique was signed at the UN headquarters in New York today on the establishment of diplomatic relations between the governments of Oman and Saint Lucia. The joint communique, which was signed by adviser Husayn Muhammad 'Ali, charge d'affaires of the permanent delegation of the Sultanate in New York, states the following:

The governments of Oman and Saint Lucia honestly desire to develop and strengthen their relations for the growth of cooperation between world peoples on the basis of principles of mutual respect, independence, national sovereignty, non-intervention in the internal affairs of any country and not to resort to force in international relations. On this basis, they have decided to establish diplomatic relations at the ambassadorial level, beginning from the date of issuance of this news.

PDRY

Palestinian Visitors, Others Hold Talks

YSP Chairman Receives Visitors

GF281530 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Excerpt] Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium and chairman of the Council of Ministers, received separately in his office at the Central Committee Secretariat this morning Comrades Nayif Hawatimah, DFLP secretary general; Sulayman an-Najdat, assistant secretary general of the Palestinian Communist Party; Daniel Ni'mah, member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of Syria; and Nadim 'Abd as-Samad, member of the Political Bureau of the Lebanese Communist Party.

During the meeting, the participants discussed the struggle relations between the YSP and the DFLP, Palestinian Communist Party, Communist Party of Syria, and the Lebanese Communist Party, within the framework of the joint goals and principles, the current situation and developments in the Arab region, and particularly the relations between the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples, Syria's steadfastness against the imperialist and Zionist conspiracies and the challenges which the Arab national liberation movement and its [word indistinct] and progressive regimes are facing. They also reviewed the results of the Aden meeting — which was held among the Palestinian organizations — and its importance in strengthening Palestinian national unity and the alliance with fraternal Syria, the Lebanese national forces and the national liberation movement.

The brother secretary general expressed his satisfaction with the results of the Aden meeting which during the next phase will contribute to keeping the Palestinian revolution away from the threats of retaliation and the conspiracies against it. He praised the Lebanese national movement's struggle in confronting the Israeli occupation and the imperialist and Zionist designs, and its struggle relations with the Palestinian revolution and Syria, which are strengthening daily.

The visitors expressed satisfaction with meeting the brother secretary general, the results of the Aden meeting and its importance for the future of the Palestinian national work. They also praised the YSP's role in hosting this meeting.

Chairman Receives PFLP's Habash

GF282006 Aden ANA in Arabic 1725 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] Aden, 28 Mar, (ANA) — Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, and chairman of the Council of Ministers, received today Brother Dr George Habash, PFLP secretary general.

During the meeting, the struggle relations between the Yemeni and the Palestinian revolutions, the situation and the developments in the Arab arena the Palestinian arena in particular, the strengthening of the Palestinian national work unity and the positive results of the quadripartite Palestinian meeting in Aden, were discussed.

The brother secretary general reaffirmed the PDRY's support for all work towards Palestinian unity, which serves the unity of the Palestinian ranks under the PLO's leadership and strengthens its unity on the basis of its national, progressive and anti-imperialist line.

DFLP Leader Hawatimah Departs

GF281724 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] Brother Nayif Hawatimah, DFLP secretary general, left Aden today following a several days' visit to our country. During his visit, he took part in the Palestinian meeting in Aden, which was participated in by leaders of the Palestinian revolutionary factions.

He was seen off at the airport by 'Abd al-Ghani 'Abd Qadir, member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the YSP Central Committee, and Mahmud an-Najashi, member of the YSP Central Committee and deputy secretary of the YSP Central Committee.

Palestinian Factions Issue Statement

GF281720 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] The joint command of the DFLP and PFLP, the Palestinian Liberation Front and the Palestinian Communist Party have called for a wider national front within the framework of the PLO, in order to safeguard the PLO's unity, its establishments

and national line, to confront the threat of deviation and capitulation, and block all attempts to divide the PLO.

In a joint statement which was issued at the conclusion of their meetings, held in Aden during 23-26 March, these four Palestinian organizations pointed out that this invitation is open to all the national factions, unions and personalities, and is not an alternative to the PLO nor does it set up establishments which are parallel to its establishments. The statement stressed the importance of safeguarding the PLO's unity and its establishments on national, progressive and anti-imperialist and anti-Zionist bases, which adhere to the political program which was adopted by the 14th PNC session and the resolutions of the 16th session in Algiers.

It also affirmed the importance of: adhering to the PLO's national line and its resolutions, particularly those which are related to the rejection of restoring relations with the Egyptian regime unless it abandons the Camp David accords; preventing the current attempts of the Jordanian regime to undermine the unity of the PLO's representation of the Palestinian people; uniting the relations of the strategic alliance with the Arab liberation movement forces, particularly with Syria and the Lebanese national movement and with the progressive and peace forces in the world — foremost of which is the Soviet Union; and adhering to the bases for solving the issue as they were affirmed by the resolutions of the PNC session in Algiers.

The statement stressed the need to confront deviation and capitulation in all its forms, particularly the Cairo visit and the steps which followed it. It also affirmed the importance of true adherence to the resolutions of the Algiers session and its rejection of the Camp David accords and the Reagan plan.

The four Palestinian organizations expressed their great appreciation to the YSP leadership — specifically Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, and chairman of the Council of Ministers — for hosting this meeting and for their positive and constructive role which contributed to ensuring the success of the talks. They also expressed their gratitude for the contributions of the representatives of the Communist Party of Syria and the Lebanese Communist Party in helping this meeting to reach positive results.

DPRK Vice Premier Arrives for Visit, Talks

GF281716 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Excerpt] Comrade Chong Chun-ki, candidate member of the Korean Workers Party Political Bureau and DPRK vice premier, arrived in Aden today on a several days' visit to our country.

During his visit, he will hold talks with the party and state officials on struggle relations which link our country with the DPRK, and the means to strengthen and develop them.

Bulgarian Official Departs After Visit

GF290511 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Summary] Comrade Emil Chervenyakov, Bulgarian first deputy minister of energy and raw materials, left Aden today after concluding a several days' visit to our country.

QATAR

GULF TIMES Urges Renewed UK Role in Mideast

GF281034 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0740 GMT 28 Mar 84

[From the press review]

[Excerpt] Manama, 28 Mar (WAKH) — The English-language Qatari newspaper *GULF TIMES* has called on Britain to launch a new initiative in order to hammer out a just and durable solution to the Middle East issue.

The paper added that the British statements were made during the current visit of Queen Elizabeth II of Britain to Jordan reflected a kind of sympathy with the Palestinian issue. The paper pointed out that Britain knows the facts about the Middle East crisis more than any other side, due to its role in the region from 1917 until 1948. The paper went on to say that for the past 36 years, since the United States took the initiative with regard to the Middle East issue in 1948, it has adopted a futile policy. What is worse is that U.S. policy was always distinguished by its bias toward Zionism and its ignoring of the Arabs. The paper then alluded to the leading British role in the EEC and the Commonwealth countries, noting that most of the countries that are members of these two blocs recognize the justice of the Palestinian issue and denounce the Zionist settlement policy.

The paper asserted that Britain has to regain the initiative in the Middle East in order to forge a just, comprehensive and durable solution to the issue in the region.

SAUDI ARABIA

King Fahd Receives U.S. Envoy Rumsfeld

LD281207 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1130 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz today received Donald Rumsfeld, American envoy to the Middle East, who arrived earlier in Riyadh.

Commentary Views Proposed U.S. Embassy Move

LD282215 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Commentary by Husayn al-'Askari]

[Text] Ambassadors of 23 Islamic countries have informed the U.S. secretary of state that the transfer of the American Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem will create problems for the United States in the entire Islamic world.

As is known, the United States had adhered to the Security Council resolution issued in 1980 calling on member-countries of the United Nations not to transfer their embassies to the holy city before a solution is found to its legal status. Israel had announced on 30 June 1980, that Jerusalem — including its eastern and western parts — is its capital, a notion which was rejected at the time by the international community, which still rejects it strongly.

Last month, Secretary of State Shultz said that his government rejects the transfer of its embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem, because Jerusalem is land occupied by Israel after the June 1967 war. The American secretary was answering a question put to him by a member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, and added that the status of Jerusalem is a special case — and that the status of the holy city, from his country's viewpoint, should be settled through negotiations.

However, the emergence of a new tone at present, through the submission of a draft resolution to Congress calling for the transfer of the embassy, has stirred up dissatisfaction in the Islamic world because the raising of such an issue before Congress and making it a card to be played by the American presidential candidates in order to win the Jewish vote has many ramifications. It will add to the Islamic world's feeling of anxiety, and leave its mark on the relations between the United States and the Islamic world.

And this is what the ambassadors of 23 Islamic states to Washington wanted to express at the meeting of a delegation of six ambassadors representing the Islamic group with the U.S. secretary of state yesterday, in order to tell him their countries' feelings, noting the U.S. adherence to the Security Council resolution and to indicating that any U.S. retreat from this position will have a bad effect on Washington's relations with the Islamic world.

The American Administration should take this into consideration because any forbearance [tasahul] toward Israel does not serve the quest for a formula basis for finding a just solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict. For these considerations, dealing with previous mistakes should not mean continuing down the wrong road.

UAE

AL-WAHDAH Urges Meeting on U.S. Embassy Move

GF290640 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 0612 GMT 29 Mar 84

[From the press review]

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 29 Mar (WAM) — In its editorial today, *AL-WAHDAH* called for an urgent Arab-Islamic meeting to confront the United States' attempt to move its embassy to occupied Jerusalem,because this is a blatant violation of Arab rights in Palestine and a violation of international law.

AL-WAHDAH noted that the Zionist enemy is taking advantage of the U.S. elections for this purpose, particularly when "U.S. President Reagan is trying his best to win again, and is not hesitating to meet the demands of our enemy, Israel." The paper asserted that the United States will not be forced to abandon its move except by a prompt and forceful Arab move, and "this can be achieved only by tangible and realistic action, and not through intimidation only." The paper indicated in this connection that if U.S. interests in the Arab countries are subjected to a real threat, this will make it wiser in its policy, and it will thus hesitate in implementing this step which undermines the security of all Arab countries and exposes their freedom and fate to the most serious danger.

In conclusion, the newspaper affirmed that the Arabs possess more than one means to realize their legitimate rights if they unite and act to promote the interests of their homeland. Arab assets in U.S. coffers and their multi-sided interests and enormous investments in the Arab land require them to consider the situation before deciding to fight Arab rights, the paper said.

Conference Urges Ensuring Rights of Gulf Women

GF290620 Dubayy KHALEEJ TIMES in English 28 Mar 84 p 1

[Excerpts] UAE society has never experienced the subjugation of women, who have always occupied an important place in the family and society even during the days of pearl diving, Mr 'Abdallah an-Nuways, undersecretary of the Ministry of Information and Culture, told the delegates attending the Arabian Gulf and Peninsula women's conference in Abu Dhabi yesteday.

The undersecretary, who presided over the morning session of the conference yesterday, said that the UAE's interest in women's associations and development centers aimed mainly at encouraging women to assume their responsibilities and play their constructive role. The motive behind urging them to develop handicrafts, he said, was to promote traditional industries and to preserve the country's heritage, rather than satisfying their financial needs. Mr 'Abdallah an-Nuways also referred to the country's pioneering experience in sending 'cultural caravans' to remote regions to introduce modern civilization to the rural people, and to provide social and cultural guidance and medical care.

Presenting her paper on 'Rights of Women in South Yemen,' Mrs Aisha 'Abd al-'Aziz, member of the Central Council of Yemeni Women's Federation, said the constitution of South Yemen provided equal rights to men and women in political, economic and social fields. She said women had equal opportunities with men in acquiring education for different professions.

The paper outlined the rights of working women as provided in the country's labor law, and the role of women's organizations in creating conditions conducive to a better working atmosphere.

Mrs Nadra Fathi Mohammed, member of Baghdad's Labor Culture Organization, read a paper on laws pertaining to working women in the Arab Gulf countries. She said that in the Gulf and Arabian Peninsula countries, women constituted only 10 per cent of the total work force. This small participation, she pointed out, necessitated the involvement of the foreign work force in the

development process of the region. She called for a rethinking of the matter. The working and rest hours of women under international labor rules was the subject matter of the paper presented by Mr Yasin Hadi al-Jasir, an expert at the Iraqi Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs.

At the concluding session in the evening, the conference called for field studies on real conditions of women in the Gulf and Arabian Peninsula countries. It stressed the necessity for preparing accurate statistics on working women. The conference called upon the Gulf and Arab Peninsula states to make use of the Arab labor agreement, while introducing amendments to standing labor laws in the region in order to ensure the rights of working women.

Briefs

Ash-Shariqah Oil Production — Ash-Shariqah, 29 Mar (WAKH) — The newspaper *AL-KHALIJ* reported today, quoting the Ash-Shariqah Bank's annual report for 1983, that the Ash-Shariqah emirate's oil production in 1983 reached more than 50,000 barrels per day. The report said this figure is expected to rise in 1984. [Excerpt] [Manama WAKH in Arabic 0714 GMT 29 Mar 84 GF]

Mubarak at Conference Reacts to Libyan Threats

NC291301 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1253 GMT 29 Mar 84

[Text] Cairo, 29 Mar (MENA) — Answering a question whether there is any evidence that Libyan soldiers will cross into Egypt as they threatened, President Muhammad Husni Mubarak said this afternoon: We do not consider what the Libyan leader said yesterday as being important. We have become used to such statements.

The president added: We do not react nervously to such statements because we are a civilized state and look upon the people of Libya as our neighbors.

Mubarak said he believed there will be no further exacerbation of the situation. He added: We hope there will be no exacerbation.

President Mubarak answered a question on reports reiterated yesterday in Cairo that military leaves have been cancelled and whether this indicates that Egypt considers the Libyan leader's statement as constituting a danger. He said: I do not deny anything. We have raised the state of readiness affecting leaves only. This is normal practice in the Armed Forces.

President Mubarak emphasized that Egypt does not intend to take any combat action against its neighbors under any circumstances. He said: If Colonel al-Qadhdhafi wants to come to our country, he will be welcome. I have said this in Aswan; and we are ready to discuss with him in a civilized manner any questions he wants to discuss.

Replying to a question on claims recently published abroad that the plane that raided Omdurman had taken off from Sudanese territory, the president, who appeared surprised, said: "Took off from Sudan?" It was a Libyan plane. Does anyone other than Libya have a Tupolev-22? The plane took off from Al-Kufrah, flew back, and landed in Tripoli.

President Mubarak added: They have promoted the pilots who carried out the operation. They spoke to us on the telephone and said: Yes, we carried out the operation. He added: "We understand such topics (mawdu'at) well."

Replying to a question on the decisions the president wants to make regarding the most difficult problems in Egypt, namely, the population growth, President Husni Mubarak said: I believe the growth in population is the primary problem, and that is why we held this conference [Population conference currently meeting in Cairo]. President Mubarak emphasized that the problem is presently being tackled in an intensive and serious manner to achieve the desired advancement of our country.

It is worth noting that President Husni Mubarak made these statements after attending the final session of the National Conference on Population held at the Central Department for Mobilization and Statistics.

Further Reportage on Visit of Malian President

Holds News Conference

NC282100 Cairo MENA in English 1945 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] Cairo, March 28 (MENA) — Malian President Moussa Traore said at a press conference held at Al-Qubbah Palace tonight, that he discussed with President Husni Mubarak a number of important issues, including the Middle East problem, and the importance of solving the problems confronting the Organization of African Unity.

He said that they dealt with means of promoting bilateral relations between the two countries, emphasizing that the presence of President Mubarak at the head of Egypt will consolidate aspects of cooperation between the two countries.

In reply to a question on the Malian stance on the issues of Chad and the Sahara, President Traore said that foreign intervention in Chad should be prevented, and that the Chadian brothers should be given the opportunity to reach a certain formula of reconciliation. He said that the member-states of the OAU should contribute to solving the Chadian problem as the organization has assumed its role in this regard for reaching a reconciliatory formula in Chad.

On the Sahara problem, he emphasized the right of the people of the Sahara to self-determination without which peace would not be achieved in this part of the African Continent. He added that the Organization of African Unity adopted many resolutions at its recent meeting held in June 1983, and called upon the two parties to resort to direct negotiations for conducting a plebiscite for self-determination.

Asked on the possibility of solving the thorny problems in south Africa by peaceful means, the Malian president emphasized the need for conducting negotiations in any conflict, saying that peace imposed on the peoples is a kind of warfare.

Stressing the importance of development in the African Continent, President Traore said that such development cannot be achieved in Africa so long as there is foreign intervention in its internal affairs and as long as some African countries interfere in the affairs of other African countries.

In conclusion, the Malian president stressed the need for strategic planning in Africa so that development can be achieved. [passage indistinct]

Concludes Visit, Departs

NC290818 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 29 Mar 84

[Text] Malian President Moussa Traore left Cairo this morning at the conclusion of his visit to Egypt. During the 4-day visit, President Traore held discussions with President Husni Mubarak on international issues in general and African issues in particular, as well as on bolstering bilateral relations. The Malian president was seen off by President Mubarak and senior officials.

GDR Minister Departs After 4-Day Visit

NC281753 Cairo MENA in English 1735 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] Cairo, March 28 (MENA) — Felix Meier, minister of electrical engineering and electronics in the German Democratic Republic, left this afternoon with his accompanying delegation winding up a four-day visit to Egypt at the invitation of Minister of Power and Energy Mahir Abazah.

Meier had discussed with Premier Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din the feasibility of promoting relations in the domain of energy production and distribution. They also tackled the situation in the Middle East.

The East German minister also signed with Abazah a protocol on technical cooperation between Egypt and the GDR.

Rome LA REPUBBLICA Interviews Kamal Hasan 'Ali

PM281556 Rome LA REPUBBLICA in Italian 24 Mar 84 p 11

[Interview with Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali by Giorgio Signorini in Cairo; date not given]

[Excerpts] Cairo, March — "Egypt is returning to the Arab world with its head held high, without having accepted conditions of any kind." "Mistaken ideas and deplorable information have caused the failure of Washington's diplomacy in the Middle East." "Peace with Israel is a strategic option, and our present relations with the Arab and Islamic worlds do not conflict with this option in the least." With his impeccable blue suit, cut to fit a rather full figure, the fluent but slow eloquence of someone who weighs his every word, his nervous hands resting on his knees, Kamal Hasan 'Ali has all the characteristics of a high-ranking diplomat.

Question: King Husayn of Jordan repeats every day that U.S. policy in the Middle East has now lost all credibility. Do you share this verdict?

Answer: Obviously in Jordan there is a well justified sense of frustration with the U.S. attitude. There are several reasons for this. First, King Husayn requested a number of guarantees to encourage the Palestinians to continue the dialogue with a view to a future mediation. These guarantees should ahve included the freezing of the Israeli settlements, a halt on the gradual annexation of the West Bank and Gaza — which has become Israel's daily practice — and, last, the display of some flexibility on the U.S. Administration's part toward the friendly countries of the region.... And not just toward the countries that are not friendly.

Question: Do you mean that Washington is more flexible with Syria than with Jordan and maybe Egypt?

Answer: Certainly there is often a lack of flexibility toward friendly countries. For example, King Husayn was attempting to secure military aid from the United States. However, when he witnessed the congressional debate which is, let us acknowledge, the democratic way to decide everything that revealed very strong U.S. opposition in an election year, to supplying even modest miliary aid, he concluded that, all in all, it is a betrayal of his cause.

Question: Syria and certain PLO factions are suggesting to Egypt that it treat the Camp David accords precisely as Al-Jumayyil treated the 17 May agreement between Israel and Lebanon. How do you assess that advice?

Answer: The comparison between the two accords is — allow me to choose my words carefully — very hypothetical. First, Egypt is the country that has fought four wars with Israel without any participation by the Arab world. Egypt reached the conclusion after these four wars that a peace initiative had to be taken. As soon as we launched the peace policy, the attainment of an accord envisaging the recovery of our territories became the key point for us. However, we obviously also discussed the problem of Palestinian autonomy. Once the bilateral agreement had been reached, the Egyptian-Israeli treaty was very satisfactory for us, and I believe it was so for Israel as well. As regards Palestinian autonomy which constituted the second part of the Camp David accords we found ourselves in complete disagreement with the Israelis' interpretation of it. And that is all there is to it. We have in no way betrayed the Palestinian cause. So let them tell us why we should relinquish something we consider satisfactory and that also constitutes a strategic option for us.

Question: For the first time in its recent history Egypt has become a kind of gray area. You can now talk to Israel and the United States on the one hand, and with the Arab world on the other. You now have a highly responsible central role. What line of action have you chosen to perform it adequately?

Answer: We demonstrated our line of action following Casablanca by agreeing to resume our activity within the Islamic Conference. The main point of our policy in this regard has been: no conditions of any kind for our return. This principle has been accepted, and this is of very great significance.

Question: Namely? What does it signify in your opinion?

Answer: It signifies that for the first time the majority of the Islamic and Arab worlds has been observed to realize the new prospects, having our stance as a reference point. For the first time the silent majority of the Arab world has made its voice heard at the Islamic conference in Casablanca. And, we are pleased that a large proportion of the Arab world has finally displayed realism with regard to the Middle East situation. This is our line of action, and we will not stray from it. Our present relations with the Arab and Islamic worlds in no way conflict with our relations with Israel.

Question: I believe you are about to leave for Baghdad. What will be your priority on your visit there?

Answer: From the beginning, our first priority has been to end the war. As soon as we saw that Iraq was in favor of ending hostilities and reaching a reconciliation with Iran, we helped it improve its defenses by supplying weapons and ammunition. As I am a foreign minister, the significance of my Baghdad visit will obviously be political. However, it will also include a careful examination of the military situation on the Iranian-Iraqi border.

We will review all attempts made thus far to halt the war, and the latest communications exchanged by the two warring countries via third countries.

Question: Are you referring to Algeria's mediation?

Answer: I don't know whether that was the latest n.. diation. The latest and most promising was certainly by the nonaligned countries. Then we will review the international situation and that prevailing in the Arab world which, unfortunately, remains very confused. We will devote special attention to an examination of ways and means of improving the Arab world's image.

Question: There are two philosophies in 1984 regarding the international situation and the Middle East. The first says it is futile and frustrating to await major developments in an U.S. election year. According to the second, the unsatisfactory record of Reagan's policy is a point in favor of European and Middle Eastern diplomacy. In other words, friendly but steadfast pressure should be immediately exerted on Washington. Which of these two philosophies do you support?

Answer: In this connection, too, we must examine the situation pragmatically, with a realistic and practical approach. We have seen the U.S. Administration undertaking a major effort in the Middle East to resolve the Lebanese problem. Unfortunately, it has achieved no result for various reasons.

Question: This observation belongs to the second philosophy. What is the reason for this failure?

Answer: Perhaps there have been some mistaken ideas. Probably some deplorable information. The two things together caused a series of concessions by U.S. diplomacy in the Middle East, that culminated in the withdrawal of the Marines. The duration of the debate on the Lebanese problem lies like a shadow over the Palestinian issue. And that's why we find ourselves after everything with no solution to the Lebanese issue and with a Reagan plan impossible to implement as far as the Palestinians are concerned.

This means it will be some time before the U.S. Administration formulates a new policy. This will also depend on the Lebanese factions, Israel's willingness to withdraw, Syria's attitude and withdrawal, and finally, on the Arab world, within which certain countries still support the Syrian stance. All of this means that some time will have to pass. In my opinion, this period cannot be less than from now until the end of the year. This coincides, in fact, with U.S. election year.

Question: Is it true you are trying to restore prestige to the old French-Egyptian proposal to reach a new formulation of UN Security Council Resolution 242? Do you believe such an initiative could succeed?

Answer: This is an essential point. In this regard, the support that King Husayn and the Palestinians can give the initiative via the current negotiations — which must reach a final outcome — is decisive. And therefore from the decisions that will emerge from the next PNC session [sentence as published]. This is where the draft resolution comes in. It must be reformulated to take account of the present situation, because the original draft proceeded from Lebanon, whereas now it must address itself directly to the Palestinian problem.

Therefore, in formulating it we must keep three primary objectives in mind: 1 — the PLO's recognition of Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 and of Israel's right to exist and survive; 2 — the recognition by the international community, including the United States, of the Palestinian people's right to self-determination, with a formula linking Jordan to this process; 3 — last, and decisively, Israel must recognize the Palestinians' rights, since this is the central point of the entire problem.

Question: The Middle East problem is permanently on the agenda of Italy, as a Mediterranean country and EC member, and of the EC as a whole: Foreign Minister Andreotti stressed this on his recent visit to Cairo. What is the most constructive initiative you would suggest to the EEC heads of state and government that would accelerate the peace process in the Middle East?

Answer: First, I want to talk a little about Italy. I am happy to say that Italy has acted very positively in the Middle East. It agreed to join the Multinational Peace and Observation Force in the Sinai and stands by this commitment. Second, it sent troops to Lebanon as part of the Multinational Force. Finally, it takes part in all diplomatic activities in the region aimed at attaining a peaceful solution. As an EC member, it has a decisive role in the definition of EC policies.

What can we now ask of the EC? We note that the major proportion of the crisis depends on U.S. flexibility or, rather, inflexibility, in acting on Israel so that the final word can be spoken on the settlements and all the initiatives regarding the West Bank that we regard as a gradual annexation.

In our opinion, this is the crux of the Middle East crisis. Can the EC do anything in this regard either vis-a-vis the United States or vis-a-vis Israel? That is the point. Point number two is to continue giving solid support to the PLO, which will facilitate the evolution of its stances in a moderate direction. The EC has a major role to play in this context as well. When Gaston Thorn and Minister Andreotti were here both in the same week I told them very frankly how Egypt envisages the European contribution to its efforts to accelerate the peace process. It is as I have just told you.

AL-AHRAM on Anniversary of Treaty With Israel

PM281038 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 26 Mar 84 p 7

[Editorial: "On the Treaty Anniversary"]

[Text] The 5th anniversary of the signing of the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty today comes at a time when all signs and development of events in the area confirm the correctness of the Egyptian course in realizing the facts of the situation and its perspicacity.

Since 26 March 1979 Egypt, by virtue of its early choice of the strategy of just peace as the only way to stability in the area and to a comprehensive solution through the mutual recognition of

legitimate rights, has been able to achieve great and substantial gains. As it recovered Sinai, its towns and oil, Egypt's international prestige increased. This led to the conclusion of many joint financial, investment, and military agreements. Egypt's international credit was boosted thanks to President Mubarak's successful visits abroad, the country regained its major role in Africa, Asia, and the Nonaligned Movement, and integration with Sudan began.

Despite the unjust boycott by certain parties, Egypt's unswerving course of continuing peace efforts and defending the Palestinian problem, has had a major impact on making others see the soundness of its view and farsightedness, and realize that it has never forsaken anyone's rights. Indeed, it has defended and continues to defend these rights on a single premise; that of just peace. The inevitable result has been that voices have been raised praising Egypt's role, expressing regret at its banishment, and calling for its return to the Arab ranks, because without it the Arabs will only be involved in regrettable actions and humiliating retreats. As a result, Egypt's relations with Iraq, Jordan, and others have improved, 'Arafat visited Egypt and praised its stand, and the ICO decided to readmit it.

It remains for Israel to fulfill its commitments, particularly with regard to the second part of the treaty; namely, the realization of Palestinian autonomy, instead of pursuing an opposite course and substantially deviating from the course of genuine peace by annexing the Golan and Jerusalem, striking at the Iraqi atomic reactor, invading Lebanon, and persisting in the policy of building settlements instead of building confidence in the West Bank and Gaza.

Navy, Air Force Destroy Iranian Targets 29 Mar

JN290959 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0940 GMT 29 Mar 84

[Text] A military spokesman has stated the following:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

O we shall show thee that accomplished which we have promised them; For verily we shall prevail over them. [Koranic verse]

Several enemy naval targets were discovered at dawn today in the Khowr-e Musa area, northeast of the Arab Gulf, on their way to Bandar-e Khomeyni. Our valiant naval force and its daring air force confronted them, dealt them strong blows, and at successive times this morning succeeded in directly and effectively hitting four large naval targets. Columns of smoke were seen billowing from them and our forward observation posts heard the sound of explosions emanating from the area of the hit targets. All of our valiant naval units and their able aircraft returned safely to base, praise be to God.

The enemy dispatched two helicopters to the mentioned area to rescue the crews of the hit enemy vessels. Our valiant air force was lying in wait for the enemy. A formation of our daring aircraft immediately attacked the two enemy helicopters, surprised them with strong and direct blows, and at 0910 today, the eagles of our air force destroyed them. They were seen crashing over the sea on fire and with smoke billowing from them. The two helicopters were identified as a Chi-53 and Cobra. All of our fighter aircraft returned safely and triumphantly to base, praise be to God. Thus, the destructive blows delivered by our naval and air forces continue to be dealt to all enemy naval and air targets in the prohibitied military zone. The victories of the courageous men of the sea and the valiant eagles of the air become greater while the defeats and setbacks of the enemy increase on land, at sea, and in the air. 29 March 1984

Armed Forces Communique No 1,418 - 28 March

JN281730 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1645 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] Baghdad, 28 Mar (INA) — Iraqi fighter aircraft attacked Iranian positions and troop concentrations east of Basra today, inflicted on the enemy more losses in life and equipment, and returned safely to base after carrying out 140 combat missions. Iraqi helicopter gunships raided Iranian forces in the same area, and destroyed three vehicles and six troop concentrations. All the helicopter gunships returned safely to base.

Communique No 1,418, issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command here this evening stated that the Iraqi forces destroyed five Iranian infantry positions, one hardware stockpile, one personnel carrier, and one command position in various areas of the battlefield.

The communique also said that the Iranian regime's artillery yesterday evening and today shelled Basra, Mandali, Ash-Shihabi, Zurbatiyah, and Darband-e Khan. As a result of the enemy shelling, four houses were destroyed in Mandali; three houses and one school were destroyed, and one mosque was damaged in Ash-Shihabi; two houses were damaged in Zurbatiyah; and several civilian installations were damaged in Basra and Darband-e Khan. Following is the text of the communique:

Communique No 1,418 issued by the Armed Forces General Command. In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. In defense of great Iraq and the Arab nation's noble values our valiant Armed Forces continued their activities against the forces of the clique of rancor and aggression which is ruling in Iran. The results for yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. Our daring eagles today carried out daring and successful raids against enemy positions and troop concentrations and units in the areas opposite our forward units' positions east of Basra, scoring very effective and direct hits, and inflicting on the enemy more losses in life and equipment. All our fighter aircraft returned safely and triumphantly to base, praise be to God, The fighter aircraft of our Air Force carried out 140 combat missions today.

2. Our forward units shelled enemy positions and troop and vehicular concentrations east of Basra, and also pounded them with all types of weapons, scoring direct and effective hits. The shelling killed many enemy elements, wounded others, and destroyed three infantry positions, one personnel carrier, and one command post.

3. The knights of our helicopter gunships today attacked enemy positions and its troop and vehicular concentrations opposite our forward units positions east of Basra, scoring direct hits on the enemy's vehicles and troop concentrations, and inflicting on the enemy losses in life and equipment. Known enemy losses amount to three vehicles and six troop concentrations destroyed. All our helicopter gunships returned safely to base, praise be to God.

4. One infantry position and one hardware stockpile were destroyed in the east Tigris operational threater.

5. One infantry position was destroyed in the Maysan sector.

6. The treacherous Iranian regime yesterday evening and today shelled Basra, Mandali, Ash-Shihabi, Zurbatiyah, and Darband-e Khan with heavy artillery. As a result of enemy shelling, four houses were destroyed in Mandali; three houses and one school were destroyed, and one mosque was damaged in Ash-Shihabi; two houses were damaged in Zurbatiyah; and several civilian installations were damaged in Basra and Darband-e Khan.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 28 March 1984

Monte Carlo Interviews Foreign Minister 'Aziz

JN281855 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1727 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Interview with Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz by Radio Monte Carlo correspondent Huda Tawfiq in Baghdad on 28 March — recorded]

[Text] [Huda Tawfiq] Your Excellency, you recently held talks with Donald Rumsfeld, U.S. President Ronald Reagan's envoy. I am interested in how you assess the U.S. role at this stage, and

in addition, what is expected from the U.S. role with respect to Iraq at this stage?

[Tariq 'Aziz] Yesterday, [as heard] I held lengthy and very frank talks with Rumsfeld. Frankly speaking, we pin no hopes on or expect much from others in the battle we are currently waging against the Iranian aggression. However, we do not neglect the role of others, particularly the big powers which assume a basic responsibility in the preservation of security and stability in the world. Among these powers is the United States. We informed Rumsfeld the two times we met with him that the Iranian regime has proven its determination to prolong the war. The Iranian regime rejects international resolutions, the principle of holding a dialogue, and peaceful methods for settling the dispute. If this matter is clear to all and the Iranian regime has largely contributed to this then there must be practical steps by the international community, and by those countries that say they wish this war would end, to prevent Iran from pursuing the war and to not take lightly Iran's capability to pursue the war. We do not ask this only from the United States, but from all those countries that can contribute to this topic in a direct or indirect manner.

[Tawfiq] How far did the United States go in responding to this demand?

['Aziz] We hope the United States and Western countries become aware of this subject. We will continue to follow up the practical aspects through the statements and reaffirmations they will make.

[Tawfiq] Proceeding from Rumsfeld's visit, what does the United States propose at this stage with respect to ending the Iranian-Iraqi dispute?

['Aziz] They have no definite plan or program.

[Tawfiq] Then why did Rumsfeld come?

['Aziz] He came as part of a tour of the region. As I said, we exchanged viewpoints in a frank manner. This, in itself, is something which required.

[Tawfiq] Can we expect a resumption of this U.S.-Iraqi contact?

['Aziz] Yes, there is no objection. We agreed that whenever the opportunity becomes available for exchanging viewpoints, we will welcome the opportunity.

[Tawfiq] Will Iraqi officials visit the United States and will there be an envoy [U.S.] who will return to Iraq?

['Aziz] If Rumsfeld wishes to visit Iraq at another time, we will welcome him. We have not agreed on a program, and have no objection to also visit the United States if there is a need for this.

[Tawfiq] In regard to formulating an international stand that will pressure Iran to stop the fighting, we look to the United States and the USSR, too. In your opinion, where does the USSR stand?

['Aziz] The USSR strongly supports an end to the conflict. It announces this in an explicit manner, and the USSR media repeatedly speak of the need to end the war, and to hold Iran responsible for its prolongation.

[Tawfiq] With respect to Iraq's efforts for bringing Egypt back to Arab solidarity and restoring Arab solidarity, are there any steps that Iraq will undertake soon on the Arab level, and with the Arab countries in this respect?

['Aziz] We prefer not to announce any steps before their fruition. Arab solidarity is an important objective. It is a necessity. Any statements to the media that will not contribute to the success of these steps will be harmful. That is why Iraq is not inclined to talk too much on this subject. Iraq prefers persistent and serious work.

We find that Arab solidarity has become a pressing need now more than ever. The threats to which the Arab nation is subjected are grave. This requires the concerned Arab countries to seriously take into consideration the achievement of Arab solidarity and not to cuff their hands with certain restrictions that have been superseded by time. These countries must not fear certain sensitivities and accusations made by irresponsible sources. Iraq deals with all Arab brothers with this logic, whether in bilateral or general meetings. But as I said, we prefer to crystallize opinions, and not make statements.

[Tawfiq] Do you see the present stage as suitable for pushing this topic on the Arab level?

['Aziz] I believe the present time is suitable for discussing this topic in a responsible, objective, and quiet manner in order to produce serious convictions regarding Arab solidarity.

[Tawfiq] In view of the difficult circumstances we are currently witnessing — Egypt adhering to its international obligations and the Arabs adhering to their previous decisions — how can we find an outlet from this situation?

['Aziz] If there is serious and responsible thought, devoid of sensitivities and wagering, Arab leaderships will be able to open a path that will enable them to achieve Arab solidarity. This achievement can be possible. Our position is to devise a practical method that achieves actual results, and not propaganda benefits that have no value in reality.

[Tawfiq] You spoke of Iraq's relations with Egypt, saying they reached a level that is perhaps higher than those with other countries with which Iraq has full relations. Do you see this as the limit that Iraqi-Egyptian relations will reach?

['Aziz] No. Iraqi-Egyptian relations are developing in the political, economic, military, and other fields. We do not believe that what we reached is the final limit, because cooperation between any two Arab countries must not stop at a certain level, even though this level is good. These relations must be like a living creature that continues to develop.

[Tawfiq] I mean your official evaluation of the relations.

['Aziz] The two countries' leaderships have initiated a move that will enable us to build very good and practical relations that can achieve our objectives without falling captive to formalities.

[Tawfiq] Much has been said about Iraq's using the French Super Etendard planes. Has Iraq used these planes?

['Aziz] Yes. Iraq used these planes in certain instances, and will use them whenever the Iraqi Air Force deems their use suitable.

[Tawfiq] Have these planes been used during the recent phase?

['Aziz] Yes. I know the Iraqi Air Force used these planes because they are part of its arsenal, and it will certainly use them when needed.

[Tawfiq] Where do we now stand regarding a halt to the fighting?

['Aziz] We in Iraq hope the fighting will stop immediately, but the halt to the fighting also depends on the other side — this side is determined to continue the war for internal reasons, because the Tehran rulers believe that when they stop the war, they will face a very big internal impasse. Thus, they prefer the continuation of the war in order to safeguard their authority, not to achieve benefits for their people and country.

[Tawfiq] Thank you.

President Sends Condolences to Guinea Government

JN281343 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1200 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] Comrade Saddam Husayn, secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party Regional Command and president of the republic, has sent a cable of condolence to the Political Bureau of the Democratic Party of Guinea and the government of the People's Revolutionary Republic of Guinea on the death of President Ahmed Sekou Toure. The following is the text of the cable: To the Political Bureau of the Democratic Party of Guinea — Government of the People's Revolutionary Republic of Guinea. We have received the news of the death of President Ahmed Sekou Toure with deep sorrow. In our name and on behalf of the Iraqi people, we express our deep condolences on losing a struggler friend and prominent leader, who devoted hislife to struggling for his country's independence and Africa's freedom and effectively contributed to strengthening Arab-African relations and promoting Islamic solidarity.

While we hope that the Guinean people will overcome this tragedy by continuing to enhance their march of struggle, we aspire to bolster and develop the existing relations of friendship and cooperation between our two countries in the service of the common interests and the cause of freedom and justice in the world. We repeat our condolences to you and to the late president's family as well as to the friendly Guinean people, hoping that God Almighty will rest his soul in peace.

Tariq 'Aziz Leaves For Arab League Meeting 28 Mar

JN281552 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1520 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] Baghdad, 28 Mar (INA) — Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, left Baghdad today for Tunis to head Iraq's delegation to the Arab League Council meeting to convene there tomorrow at the foreign ministers' level.

'Aziz will also attend the meeting of the follow-up committee stemming from the Arab League Council's emergency session that convened in Baghdad on 14 March. The committee comprises the Arab League secretary general and foreign ministers of Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Jordan, and Morocco.

The follow-up committee is entrusted with implementing the resolution adopted during the Arab foreign ministers meeting in Baghdad on the Iranian aggression against Iraq, and with carrying out initiatives, adopting measures, and holding international contacts for halting the Iraqi-Iranian war, and safeguarding peace and stability in the region.

Tariq 'Aziz will also attend the meetings of the committee entrusted with amending the Arab League Charter that will begin there on Friday.

The delegation accompanying Tariq 'Aziz comprises Foreign Ministry Under Secretary Muhammad Sa'id as-Sahhaf, Iraq's Arab League permanent representative, and Foreign Ministry officials.

Poland's Obodowski Leaves Baghdad 28 Mar

JN281925 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1910 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] Baghdad, 28 Mar (INA) — Janusz Obodowski, deputy chairman of the Polish Council of Ministers, and his accompanying delegation left Baghdad for home this evening at the end of a 3-day visit to Iraq. The Polish official described the results of his visit as successful, and said his talks will lead to strengthening relations between Iraq and Poland in all spheres.

Queen Elizabeth Arrives in Aqaba 28 March

JN282034 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Excerpts] Aqaba — Her Majesty Queen Elisabeth II and His Highness Prince Philip arrived in Aqaba this afternoon on a visit to acquaint themselves with the city's cultural and tourist features. They were met at the airport by His Majesty King Husayn, Her Majesty Queen Nur, the commander in chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces and his wife, the governor of Ma'an, the director of the Aqaba Region Authority, the Aqaba district officer, the mayor of Aqaba, the commander of the southern region, and the director of police in the city.

His Majesty King Husayn and Her Majesty Queen Nur accompanied Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip in an official motorcade to the Marine Sciences Station of the Jordan and Al-Yarmuk Universities through the main roads of the city which were decorated with flags and placards of welcome for the guests of Jordan, and in praise of Jordanian-British relations.

Their majesties and highnesses toured the acquarium of the Marine Station where they observed specimens of the creatures living in the waters of Aqaba.

Muhammad Sa'id Abu Nuwar, director of the Aqaba Region Authority, presented a souvenir gift to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth — a hand-made gold and silver medallion that dates back to 1,223 hejira, and a hand-decorated cloth specially made for this occasion which represents the folklore of the north of the Kingdom.

Dr Mahasinah, director of the Marine Station, presented her majesty with Al-Yarmuk University's coat of arms from the staff of the station in appreciation for her majesty's visit.

He Majesty Queen Elizabeth and His Highness Prince Philip wrote notes in the visitors book in which they expressed their admiration for the high scientific level of service the station provides for natural and marine life.

Husayn Sends Cable on Death of Sekou Toure

JN281430 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] Amman — His Majesty King Husayn today sent a cable of condolences to Guinean Prime Minister Dr Lansana Beavogui. In the cable, his majesty expressed in his name and on behalf of the people and government of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan sincerest condolences and grief on the death of Guinean President Ahmed Sekou Toure.

His majesty praised the deceased's virtues and wisdom in leading his people. His majesty also praised the late president's positive role in the fields of strengthening relations and supporting cooperation between the Arab and African peoples, as well as his role in bolstering Islamic solidarity in the service of just causes in the Arab and Islamic worlds.

Israeli Efforts To Stop U.S., U.K. Missile Sales Scored

JN281944 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] After the Zionist pressure groups in the United States succeeded in forcing the U.S. President to withdraw his plan for supplying Jordan with Stinger missiles from the U.S. Congress, Israel began directing its efforts toward the United Kingdom to perform the same role and to prevent the supply of weapons to Jordan from the United Kingdom.

Israeli radio reported yesterday that President of the State of Israel Hayim Herzog, whose visit to the United Kingdom begins today, will discuss the matter of British arms deal to Jordan similar to the deal cancelled by the U.S. Administration. Israeli radio predicted the possibility that the British capital will witness in the coming weeks a heated debate between those who support the deal and those who oppose it, as happened in Washington.

This proves that Israel is behind wrecking every attempt made by Jordan to obtain the tools of power and resistance at a time when Israel has become a warehouse for the most sophisticated and advanced weapons in the region.

The only purpose for this aggressive Israeli stand is to keep Jordan in a state of weakness and paralysis in facing Israel's expansionist plans and aggressive intentions in the Middle East. If this is not true, then why does Israel boast about its success in Washington at foiling the U.S. Stinger missile deal to Jordan? Why does it predict that a heated argument will take place in the United Kingdom between the supporters of the British arms deal to Jordan and those who oppose the deal? What about the position of the U.S. Adinistration which cancelled the deal under Zionist pressure, and the position of the British Government from the expected Zionist pressure against a deal that has not yet been agreed on betweeen Amman and London? Has the effect of the Zionist pressure groups in the United States and Britain on the policies of those countries reached a level that does not give those countries the right to choose policies that will preserve their interests in the Arab world, removed from the logic which says that Israel is the guardian of those interests, and that Israel controls the existence and future of the Arab nation?

This is a strange Israeli logic. What is stranger and more surprising is that this logic affects the definition of U.S. options. It will be more surprising if this convoluted Israeli logic succeeds in affecting the centers of decision in the United Kingdom.

Israel has begun the battle against Jordan in the British arena. We hope that Israel will not win this battle as it has won the battle in Washington. Israel may lose because there is no similarity between the two arenas. The fact that everyone should know is that the options for Jordan are still open and are still as numerous as the number of countries in the world.

SAWT ASH-SHA'B on U.S. Aid to Israel, EEC Statement

JN290935 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0510 GMT 29 Mar 84

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "The Distance Between the Real and Declared Stands," *SAWT ASH-SHA'B* says: The reports say that the Foreign Relations Committee of the U.S. Congress has recommended an additional $35 million increase in U.S. economic aid to Israel, bringing it up to $1.2 billion. The reports also say that the same committee made another recommendation calling for considering the whole amount a pure donation to the State of Israel.

SAWT ASH-SHA'B continues: Such U.S. generosity has become an habitual, annual occurence practiced by the U.S. Administration throughout the years of the Israeli occupation of our Arab territory. The United States is committed to the Israeli plan, and Israel's expanded settlement and military invasions without condition, ethical value, or commitment to international principles or and without regard to U.S. interests.

In addition to the annual aid which constitutes 90 percent of the U.S. foreign aid, Israel receives many times as much as this in the form of direct aid which the U.S. law allows to be deducted from taxpayers to be given as aid to Israel. This is in addition to selling Israeli bonds the revenue from which reaches hundreds of millions of dollars each year; the sophisticated U.S. weapons with unlimited prices; and the priority given to Israel in the scientific, economic, and intelligence spheres, as well as other vital spheres, all of which are geared to strengthening Israel and its existence.

SAWT ASH-SHA'B continues: Therefore, there must be an essential change in the Arab view of the U.S. position; and Israel must be viewed as part of a U.S. plan on the Arab territory. This view will remove many illusions about U.S. credibility or about its role as a superpower authorized to maintain peace in the world.

In another development, the EEC foreign ministers' statement on the Middle East condemns the Israeli policies which reject the resolutions of the international community, rejects acquisition of land by force, and asserts the need to withdraw from the territories occupied in 1967, and to support the Palestinian right to self-determination and to confront the conditions of occupation.

The European stand, which stems from international stands and resolutions, and from the danger posed to international peace from confrontation in the Middle East, is considered condemnation of the U.S. stands which support and protect the Israeli policies which oppose international resolutions, peace, and justice.

SAWT ASH-SHA'B continues: The European stand should move on from political declarations. The principles declared by the European Community can be reinforced with policies that do not give Israel priority in the economic, scientific, and technical spheres. The political conviction that Israel's policies in the occupied territories are illegitimate has not prevented Europe from developing commercial, economic, and scientific cooperation with Israel. Israel's stands are not affected by Europe's stands. Where Israel is concerned, most European countries differentiate between their declared political stand and their actual dealings with Israel. This is part of the double-standards that are amply clear in the U.S. stands.

SAWT ASH-SHA'B concludes: The Arab stand is a double-standard one. We used to give priority to the United States in the financial, oil, and commercial spheres. Consequently, the United States employed our aspirations which are dependent on its stands to protect its interests in the Arab arena. These stands unbalance the whole situation, because defending the Arab interests begins by our dealing with the real stands of others, and not with declared stands and intentions.

Higher Political-Security Committee Meets 28 Mar

Al-Jumayyil Chairs Meeting

NC282036 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] President Amin al-Jumayyil will chair today at 2230 in the Presidential Palace a meeting of the Higher Political-Security Committee agreed upon at the Lausanne conference. The meeting will be attended by lawyer Haytham Jum'ah and Dr Ayyub Humayid from the Amal Movement; former Minister Khalid Junblatt and Lieutenant Colonel Sharif Fayyad from the Progressive Socialist Party; and Deputy George Sa'adah, Fu'ad Abu Khatir, and Dr Jean Ghanim from the Phalange Party and Lebanese Forces.

It has been learned the discussion will be confined to putting an end to the continuing violations of the cease-fire and to laying down firm bases for security measures to prevent renewed indiscriminate shelling of residential areas and innocent people, and to spare them further tragedies and bloodshed. The committee is expected to be broadened later to include [words indistinct].

Further on Meeting

NC290812 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 29 Mar 84

[Text] The Higher Political Security Committee held its first meeting last night at the Presidential Palace under the chairmanship of President Amin al-Jumayyil. Attending the meeting were Amal Movement representatives Haytham Jum'ah and Dr Ayyub Humayyid, and Progressive Socialist Party representatives former Minister Khalid Junblatt and Lieutenant Colonel Sharif Fayyad, who arrived at the Presidential Palace aboard a military helicopter.

The meeting was also attended by Deputy George Sa'adah, Dr Fu'ad Abu Nadir, and Dr George Ghanim as representatives of the Phalange Party and Lebanese Forces. The Army was represented by Army Commander General Ibrahim Tannus, Beirut Garrison Commander Major General Zuhayr at-Turk, and Beirut Prosecutor General Judge Munif 'Uwaydat.

The meeting lasted 4 hours following which judge 'Uwaydat read the following statement:

His Excellency President Amin al-Jumayyil chaired the first meeting of the Higher Political Security Committee, attended by Khalid Junblatt and Lieutenant Colonel Sharif Fayyad as representatives of the Progressive Socialist Party; lawyer Haytham Jum'ah and Dr Ayyub Humayyid as representatives of the Amal Movement; and Dr George Sa'adah, Dr Fuad Abu Nadir, and Dr Jean Ghanim as representatives of the Phalange Party and Lebanese Forces. Army Commander General Tannus and several staff officers were also present. The session lasted from 2230 until 0030 in the morning. His excellency the president opened the meeting by explaining the dangers threatening the safety of the homeland. He demanded the realization of the citizens' aspirations for tranquillity and safety, and for an end to this tragedy.

After briefing the conferees on the steps and contacts that the state is taking and establishing to deal with the current situation in the south, and to facilitate the passage to it, his excellency the president appealed to all Lebanese to unite their ranks to confront the dangers surrounding the homeland. The security situation was then discussed in all seriousness and in a most responsible way. Important steps were taken, and tangible results will gradually appear.

'Uwaydat was asked: Has the date of the next meeting been fixed? He answered: There will be continuous meetings, because his excellency the president and the conferees are very seriously working to quickly end this tragic situation. The Lebanese will, God willing, witness developments that will reassure them.

Regarding the next meeting, 'Uwaydat said: The meetings are continuing and are open. A meeting will be held at 1900 tonight.

The conferees' sources said the atmosphere of the meeting was amicable and serious. An agreement was reached on several points, to be announced only after their implementation begins.

It has been learned that it was agreed to stop the indiscriminate shelling of residential quarters, and to open the Museum Road today under the supervision of the Internal Security Forces. There will be no changes in the positions following the French soldiers' withdrawal. A program has been prepared to reopen the airport and port. The program also defines the forces to be assigned the task of maintaining security, the points where they will be stationed, and their strength. Gunmen will be withdrawn according to a timetable to be agreed upon.

Further on Contacts Regarding French Withdrawal

Security Committee Meets 28 Mar

NC281940 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] The Security Arrangements Committee held a meeting today at 1715 in the Beirut hippodrome attended by all committee members: Staff Colonel Jean Nasif from the Army; Dr Ayyub Humayid from the Amal Movement; Wahbi Abu Fa'ur from the National Salvation Front; and Dr Jean Ghanim from the Lebanese Front.

The committee immediately discussed the security situation, and then heard a detailed review from Colonel Rafiq al-Hasan, the commander of the Internal Security Force that will replace the withdrawing French force. All of the committee's members approved the measures for the replacement of the French force. The implementation of these measures will commence before noon tomorrow following a brief meeting of the committee to be attended by the French observers, the French ambassador, the commander of the French force, and Security Force Commander Colonel al-Hasan. The committee will remain in session during the deployment of the Internal Security Force and observers. The security force and French force are expected to operate together for more than a day before the latter withdraws.

Handover of Positions Begins

NC291028 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 29 Mar 84

[Text] The process of the French contingent's handover of its positions on the Museum-al-Barbir Road to the Internal Security Forces will take 3 days. The process began this morning at 1000 under the supervision of Colonel Rafiq al-Hasan, commander of the receiving force and General Datin, commander of the French contingent. This is in addition to the deployment of the French observers, who arrived yesterday in Beirut. The Security Arrangements Committee held its daily meeting at As-Sanawbar Palace at 1000. It took part in supervising the handover and takeover process.

It is recalled that the withdrawal of the French troops from Beirut will end Saturday.

Rumsfeld, U.S. Envoy Meet Salim 28 March

NC282210 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2200 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] At 2345 tonight, U.S. Presidential Envoy Donald Rumsfeld arrived at the Presidential Palace accompanied by U.S. Ambassador Reginald Bartholomew. They immediately met with Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim.

RFL: Armed Amal Demonstration Near U.S. Embassy

NC281723 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1645 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] The Amal Movement staged an armed demonstration this afternoon. The demonstration headed toward the perimeter of the U.S. Embassy with the intent of attacking it in protest over the death of three persons in Jibshit, south Lebanon, at the hands of Israeli soldiers.

USSR's Brutents To Visit Beirut 'Next Week'

NC291243 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 29 Mar 84

[Text] The Lebanese Embassy in Moscow has informed the Lebanese Foreign Ministry that Karen Brutents, deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee's International Department, will visit Beirut next week and meet with Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim.

VOAL Carries Qulaylat Message on Beirut, Struggle

NC290717 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 0530 GMT 29 Mar 84

[Text] Ibrahim Qulaylat, leader of the Independent Nasirite Movement Al-Murabitun, has addressed the following message:

In the name of God, the merciful and compassionate. Among the believers are men who have been true to their covenant with God: Of them some have completed their vow to the extreme, and some still wait: But they have never changed [Koranic verse].

Brothers: It is the will of our people to remain faithful to their principles and religious creed as a path and course [words indistinct] in ensuring that, whatever the difficulties, our life — a free and dignified life which we have chosen as a means of conduct, ethics, steadfast will, and firm determination, and which does not soften in the face of an ordeal — will realize the objectives of the national and Islamic struggle on the local, Arab, and Islamic levels. This realizes the effective principle that our goal should be noble and honorable, and match our means within the framework of the national and Islamic unity, and in order to consolidate the Islamic and national unity. At this moment, I feel Beirut — the capital of Arab history and of the permanent confrontation — has well and honorably coordinated the struggle — both its goal and means. It is resolved with all determination and confidence to confront the enemy, as its noble tradition dictates. Beirut, which represents all Lebanon, was the capital that enjoyed the vigor necessary to clash with and confront the enemy in 1982. It now finds itself fully coordinating with Lebanon — all Lebanon — with all the Arabs and Islam and its roots, and with the entire world. It is a national capital and will remain the master of capitals. It is an Arab capital and will remain the master of capitals. It is an Islamic capital and will remain the master of capitals.

VOL: PSP Reportedly Kidnapping Amal Followers

NC281622 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1515 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] A Voice of Lebanon correspondent has learned from informed security sources that the socialists have kidnapped over 100 Amal followers at the Qabr Shmun-Baysur roadblock. They issued orders to detain any Amal member arriving from the Al-Biqa' and going to Beirut. Rumors circulated to this effect have led the Druze to leave the western part of Beirut for the mountain. This report is being communicated to higher responsible quarters.

Amal Denies Reports

NC281723 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] An Amal Movement information source has denied reports circulated by certain private radios — known for incitement and intrigue — regarding the detention of several Amal members. The source also denied this radio's reports about disturbances and reactions to the detention of the Amal members.

Birri Comments on Events in South, Beirut

NC281908 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1730 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri returned to Beirut today at dawn. He conducted intensive contacts upon his return

concerning the grave measures taken by the occupation authorities in the south. In a news conference, Birri spoke of the contacts he made in Damascus, saying: I met with Syrian officials — including Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam. In addition, he added, there were joint meetings with patriotic forces to discuss the functioning of the Security Committee.

Birri said: What matters now are those measures being taken in the Al-Kharrub region and everything connected to the situation in the south. Birri said: I warn that the coverup of this plot [in the south] will not open any doors for dialogue [with the government] on even security and political matters.

Regarding his visit to France and his meeting with Mitterrand, Birri said: Our meeting focused on the south. I have been promised that the French will try to increase the UN emergency forces there.

Commenting on what happened in Beirut, Birri said: This Beirut subject has been blown out of proportion. What happened is the sort of thing that always took place in the national arena. However, it appears that a type of external interference touched the sectarian chords in Lebanon in such a way as to produce some dissonance. Beirut is our capital, Birri added, and no one can claim to be more concerned over it than the rest [of the Lebanese]. Beirut is a symbol of the patriotic resolve — the resolve of which everyone paid the price without exception.

Reaction, Situation Following Jibshit Clashes

Birri Urges Strike in An-Nabatiyah

NC282041 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 2000 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] In a statement to the Voice of the Mountain radio, Nabih Birri has called on the inhabitants of An-Nabatiyah and its district to stage a 3-day strike to protest the abominable massacre committed by Israel and its associates in the township of Jibshit, and the detention of scores of the sons of the south.

Birri also called for the closure of the roads and accesses in these areas to the Israeli forces with a view to hampering their movements.

Beirut: Seven Inhabitants Killed

NC290531 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 29 Mar 84

[Text] According to reports from Jibshit last night, seven persons were killed and more than 30 others wounded during the Israeli enemy forces' attack on the township. Israel used 400 soldiers in the attack, supported by tanks, armored cars, and helicopters, which fired on the inhabitants. Eyewitnesses said the inhabitants used sticks, stones, and daggers to resist the enemy's soldiers in the town's streets, in which battles erupted between the citizens and heavily armed soldiers. The township is still besieged by the enemy's forces, which even prevent entry and exit by convoys of the International Red Cross.

Tension mounted in the An-Nabatiyah and Az-Zahrani areas yesterday afternoon as a result of an operation by the national resistance near 'Arab Salim during which two Israeli soldiers were wounded and their car destroyed.

PSP on Lebanese Forces' Withdrawal From Al-Kharrub

NC282040 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 2000 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] The Progressive Socialist Party [PSP] has issued the following statement:

There have been numerous statements and reports during the past 2 days regarding the withdrawal of the Lebanese Forces from the Al-Kharrub region. In refutation of all these rumors, and as confirmation from us to put matters in their true perspective, the PSP announces that the withdrawal of the Lebanese Forces from the Al-Kharrub region has been demanded by the region's inhabitants ever since the aggression on it began and the withdrawal that has taken place was a one-sided step with which we are not associated.

Israeli Convoy Proceeds to Iqlim al-Kharrub

NC291030 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0945 GMT 29 Mar 84

[Text] An Israeli military convoy consisting of seven Army personnel carriers and four tanks crossed the Al-Awwali Bridge today and proceeded toward Al-Jiyah-Sawad Az-Zaynah in Iqlim al-Kharrub.

U.S. Mideast Policy, Rumsfeld Tour Criticized

JN281542 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] U.S. Presidential Envoy Donald Rumsfeld is touring the Middle East again. Reports have said that he would give up the Middle East mission that U.S. President Reagan assigned to him. This tour also comes after the U.S. withdrawal from Lebanon and the abrogation of the 17th May agreement, which the United States wanted to impose on Lebanon in the interest of Israel and the U.S. plans in the region — plans that conflict with the Arab countries' legitimate interests.

During his previous visits, Rumsfeld did not bring with him anything except decayed U.S. goods, represented by the new copy of the Camp David accords which is called the Reagan plan, or proposals that were disclosed on 1 September 1982. The U.S. demands can be summed up as follows: severing Arab relations with the Soviet Union and taking a hostile position toward it, accepting U.S. trusteeship over the region, and accepting Israeli domination over the Arab homeland.

Rumsfeld's predecessor, Philip Habib, came to the region, and to the Arab countries in particular, during the Israeli air raids on the Lebanese and the Palestinians during the Israeli invasion of Lebanon. Rumsfeld also comes at a time when the U.S. fleet is stationed in the eastern Mediterranean and U.S. forces are present in Lebanon, and while the guns of the *New Jersey* and other warships are shelling Lebanon's territory and people with heavy bombs. But during the present tour, the melody of the U.S. and Israeli military aggression no longer exists. That melody has been replaced by a funeral tune which accompanies the retreat of the U.S. forces and U.S. influence from Lebanon's territory and from the region, and the disposal of the U.S.-Israeli agreement in the dustbin of history. Just as the fleets, planes, tanks, invasions, threats and pressures failed to spread Rumsfeld's goods, the funeral tunes will also not be able to spread decayed goods that the region's peoples refuse.

U.S. collusion with Israel — against the Palestinian people, Lebanon's territorial independence, integrity and safety, and against Syria and the other Arab countries — was revealed in Lebanon. Its hostility to all that is Arab, its lies, its deception of the Arabs, and its military and financial aid to Israel were also revealed. Contrary to some agents' allegations, the United States does not possess the card of solution and peace in the region. This fact was also revealed.

U.S. President Ronald Reagan's recent statement, disclosing the implications of Rumsfeld's mission and U.S. policy in the region, are regarded as a new sign of the U.S. failure and inability to play a useful role in the cause of peace and stability in the region. Reagan implicitly confesses that his policy in Lebanon has collapsed, and did not achieve any of the missions that he had announced. But he still adheres to his policies and asks others, whom he considers responsible for the U.S. retreat from Lebanon, about alternatives to his policy — specifically, about an alternative to the 17 May agreement.

In U.S. logic, Syria is responsible for that retreat. This reveals [U.S.] ignorance of the region's facts, problems and relations. Syria says that there is a national Lebanese alternative to the 17 May agreement and a national Lebanese alternative to the U.S. position, and to subservience to the United States. This alternative is the Lebanese national accord, which will group all the Lebanese factions around common Lebanese national factors, and result in a government of national unity that will represent the Lebanese people's national interests, their concern about their Arab belonging, independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity. The accord will: realize the withdrawal of the Israeli invaders from Lebanon's territory in accordance with UN Security Council Resolutions 508 and 509; restore Lebanese sovereignty and legitimacy to the entire Lebanese territory; allow a Lebanese role in an Arab environment; and establish the best relations with Syria and the other Arab countries.

This national Lebanese alternative epitomizes the Lebanese people's interests, coincides with the legitimate Arab interests, and protects Lebanon from disruption, fragmentation, division, Israel's expansionist ambitions, and U.S. aspirations for using Lebanon as a card of pressure on Syria and the other Arabs and as a tool of blackmail in the interest of the rejected Reagan plans. The revolving of the Rumsfeld mission around the well-known Reagan policy in the Middle East will make that mission an abortive one, and will damage U.S. interests, which President Reagan harmed greatly, as former U.S. President Jimmy Carter put it.

Request for ADF Return to Beirut Opposed

GF281522 Kuwait AS-SIYASAH in Arabic 27 Mar 84 p 1

[Muhammad 'Anan dispatch from Beirut]

[Text] *AS-SIYASAH* has learned that Syria rejected a request by Dar al-Ifta' to return the ADF to West Beirut so as to preserve security in the wake of the disturbances that took place there recently.

The Syrian leadership affirmed the necessity of stopping the fighting, and said that the internal security forces should shoulder the responsibilities of preserving peace in West Beirut, after eliminating all the military manifestations from the streets and after closing the offices of the various parties. Informed sources said that Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam had asked the Dar al-Ifta' delegation which visited Damascus 2 days ago to help achieve an accord and form a national unity government as soon as possible to help unite the capital, open roads and eliminate the lines of confrontation.

Khaddam affirmed to the delegation that Syria will oppose sending an ADF to West Beirut because this is considered a kind of security division. Syria is trying to attain overall security in greater Beirut and in the other areas.

Assembly Speaker Az-Zu'bi Meets Lebanonese Official

JN281755 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] Dr Amin al-Hafiz, chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee in the Lebanese Chamber of Deputies, has expressed his appreciation to Syria, under President Hafiz al-Asad, for its principled, firm positions toward Lebanon, its support for Lebanon in overcoming its crisis, and its support for Lebanon's unity, independence and security.

During his meeting with People's Assembly Speaker Mahmud az-Zu'bi today, Dr al-Hafiz stressed the importance of the fateful relations between the two fraternal countries in all fields. He also praised Syria's pan-Arab role and its continued struggle for the sake of all Arab causes.

During this meeting, Mahmud az-Zu'bi also reviewed some Arab issues and noted our country's firm, principled positions in helping Lebanon to achieve national accord, preserve its Arabism and unity, and confront the imperialist and Zionist pressures and conspiracies.

Arab People's Conference Meets in Damascus

JN282025 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Excerpt] The coordination council of the Arab People's Conference began its work in Damascus today under the slogan of solidarity with the heroic Lebanese people, the steadfast Palestinian people, and heroic Syria, the basis of Arab steadfastness under President-struggler Hafiz al-Asad.

Attending the council's first first session were 'Umar al-Hamidi, secretary general of the Arab People's Conference; Comrade Sami Qandil, reserve member of the Ba'th Party National Command; In'am Ra'd, secretary general of the National Syrian Social Party; 'Ali Bilkhayr, deputy general secretary of the General People's Congress in Libya; and Samih Abu Quwayq, one of the leaders of the Fatah movement uprising. The session was also attended by the members of the coordination council of the conference, the heads of the popular and union organizations, a number of the accredited Arab ambassadors in Damascus, the members of the delegations parties, organizations, unions, liberation movements, the armed struggle, and the representatives of the parties of the national progressive front in Syria.

Speeches were delivered on behalf of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, the General People's Congress in Libya, and the Lebanese nationalist movement. The speeches praised Syria's principled position under President-struggler Hafiz al-Asad toward Lebanon and the Palestine question, and condemned the absolute U.S. support for Israel — a fact that enables Israel to continue its aggression against the Arab people and the Arab land. The speeches noted that Arab solidarity will not be realized under the U.S. canopy, but on the basis of confronting imperialism and Zionism and foiling U.S. and Zionist plans. The speeches also asserted that the Arab people do not stand alone in the battle against imperialism and Zionism, but that all the liberation and progressive forces in the world — foremost of which are the Soviet Union and the socialist countries — support them politically and militarily.

The speeches called for strengthening the cohesion between Syria and the Lebanese nationalist forces and the Palestinian revolution on the one hand, and the Arab and international liberation movements on the other, in order to step up the struggle for the sake of stopping the capitulatory and defeatist move that the Camp David accords adopted.

Foreign Minister Leaves for Arab League Meeting

JN281425 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1315 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] Damascus, 28 Mar (SANA) — Foreign Minister Faruq ash-Shar' left Damascus this afternoon for Tunis to attend the meetings of the 81st session of the Arab League Council, due to begin in the Tunisian capital this evening.

While in Tunis, the foreign minister will also take part in the work of the Political Committee that was formed after the last Arab summit in Fes, and which is concerned with amending the Arab League Charter .

Ba'th Party's Al-Ahmar Receives Libyan Official

JN281742 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, assistant secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, today reviewed with 'Ali Bilkhayr, deputy general secretary of the General People's Congress in the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, the latest political developments in the Arab arena, especially those pertaining to the efforts being exerted by the forces of progress and liberation in the Arab homeland — foremost of which are Syria and the Jamahiriyah — in order to foil all the imperialist and Zionist plans.

The two sides also discussed ways to develop the popular Arab struggle in a way that will contribute to strengthening that struggle in order to confront and undermine the Camp David trend. They also reviewed the course of action of the coordinating bureau meeting, the meeting of the international secretariat for solidarity with the Palestinian Arab people, and the Land Day celebrations.

'Ali Bilkhayr noted the importance of the victory for Lebanon and the Arab nation that resulted from the abrogation of the 17 May agreement. He also expressed the pride of the Libyan people and their leadership in the Syrian Arab people's struggle, and their intense effort to undermine the 17 May agreement on the basis of the principled policy that comrade-struggler Hafiz al-Asad, secretary general of the Ba'th Party and president of the republic, adopts and practices.

Comrade al-Ahmar reiterated that the leadership of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and its revolution in Syria will continue to confront the aggressive imperialist, Zionist and reactionary trend; support Lebanon's people and their nationalist forces in order to achieve national accord; and face all the plans that are aimed at liquidating the Palestinian question and dominating the

region. He also asserted our support for the Jamahiriyah against the agent regimes in Sudan and Egypt that are fabricating battles with the Jamahiriyah.

Minister Qaddurah To Attend Sekou Toure Funeral

JN281916 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1900 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] Damascus, 28 Mar (SANA) — 'Abd al-Qadir Qaddurah, deputy prime minister for economic affairs, departed Damascus for Conakry this evening to represent President Hafiz al-Asad at the funeral of the late Guinean President Ahmed Sekou Toure.

Foreign Minister Receives Delegation From Oregon

JN281433 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] Damascus — Foreign Minister Faruq ash-Shar' at 1030 this morning received Victor Atiyeh, governor of the State of Oregon, and his accompanying delegation. The meeting was also attended by Dr Sami Khalil, director of the American Department in the Foreign Ministry; and the charge d'affaires in the U.S. Embassy in Damascus.

During the meeting, talks focused on the current political situation, Syria's principled stand toward establishing a just peace in the region, and the U.S. Administration's bias toward Israel. The importance of the role that could be assumed by the Arab community in the United States was also emphasized during the meeting.

Five Criminals Executed in Damascus Square

JN281352 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1320 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] Damascus, 28 Mar (SANA) — The death sentence was carried out at dawn today in the Al-'Abbasiyyin Square, one of the main squares in Damascus, for five criminals who had played havoc with the security of the society, committed several premeditated crimes, committed robberies and deserted from military service.

The five criminals are: Ahmad Kalsali, Muhammad 'Adnan Rihawi, Muhammad Ahmad Hamzah, 'Abd ar-Rahman Jabr Khalluf, and policeman Mustafa Shaykhu who, in the past, had colluded with the criminals by facilitating their escape from prison in exchange for bribes.

Cabinet Approves State Budget for 1984

JN281445 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1310 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] Damascus, 28 Mar (SANA) — In a meeting held today underthe leadership of Prime Minister 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm, the Cabinet approved the state budget for the current year, which totals about 40 billion Syria pounds, for both the current expenditures and capital investments.

The Cabinet decided to submit the draft budget to the People's Assembly for discussion and approval, after the Cabinet looked into the amendments on the budget aimed at reducing administrative spending and concentrating on economic and social priorities in the investment sector, in accordance with the important increases that have been achieved in local income.

During its meeting today, the Cabinet also approved the draft resolution on ratifying the international agreement pertaining to vocational guidance and training in utilizing human resources; the plan to increase Syria's contribution to the Arab Monetary Fund; the draft resolution on ratifying the agreement with the Arab Montary Fund; the draft resolution on ratifying the agreement on technical, scientific and economic cooperation with the YAR; and the draft resolution on ratifying the protocol on economic cooperation signed with Bulgaria.

Jerusalem Opposes Reported British-Jordanian Deal

TA271549 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1505 GMT 27 Mar 84

[Text] In reaction to the report about an expected arms deal between Britain and Jordan, political circles in Jerusalem say that Israel is opposed to the sale of arms to countries from the area which refuse to join the peace process and are in a state of war with Israel. In this context, the political circles recalled that Britain is the only country that has not yet lifted the arms embargo that the EEC imposed on Israel following the war in Lebanon. Our political correspondent 'Oz Frankel reports that Jerusalem learned about this expected deal from reports published in the British press.

Foreign Ministry States Position

TA281149 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 28 Mar 84 p 14

[Report by political correspondent Moti Basok]

[Text] The Israeli Government was surprised to hear yesterday that Britain is persuading Jordan to purchase British Blowpipe shoulder surface-to-air missiles. The British offered the missiles to Jordan after the U.S. Congress cancelled the Stinger deal.

It was stated in the Foreign Ministry yesterday that Israel is opposed to this deal just as it is opposed to the sale of sophisticated arms to any Arab confrontation state. It was noted that Britain is the only EEC country that has not lifted the arms embargo imposed on Israel at the beginning of the Lebanese war.

Senior Foreign Ministry officials were doubtful yesterday whether Israel has the power to prevent the British-Jordanian arms deal. It was noted that Britain is one of the traditional suppliers of arms to Jordan.

The Foreign Ministry yesterday refused to react to the pro-Palestinian speech by the British queen in Jordan the day before yesterday. At the same time, senior officials in the ministry referred to the criticism levelled by the BBC at the speech. The BBC reporter said in his commentary that the content of the queen's remarks was not surprising, since the speech was written by the British Foreign Office which, according to the BBC, is known for its traditional hostility to Israel.

Jordan yesterday officially announced the procurement of 1,500 missiles from Britain. The announcement also said that Jordan favors convening a conference on Middle East affairs with the participation of all UN Security Council members, along the lines of the past Geneva conference.

Herzog on Palestinian Problem, Queen's Remarks

TA290926 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 29 Mar 84

[Text] The president of Israel said this morning that Israel agrees that there is a Palestinian tragedy. However, it stems from the refusal of the Palestinian leaders to talk with Israel about solving the problem. President Herzog said this in an interview with the BBC, answering a question which touched upon comments made by Queen Elizabeth in Jordan. He refused to react directly to the Queen's comments, and emphasized that the right people to address are those who determine the policy of Britain. The president also refused to confirm that he will invite the Queen to visit Israel. However, he said that there was no doubt the people of Israel would be happy if Queen Elizabeth were willing to visit Israel.

Supplementary Budget Passes Third Reading

TA281131 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] With the third reading, the Knesset has adopted the supplementary budget bill for the fiscal year ending this week. The supplementary budget bill of 432.5 billion shekels was adopted by 54 coalition members against 48 opposition votes. The head of the Knesset Finance Committee said that most of the money is slated for repayment of debts to the Bank of Israel for the purchase of bank shares. He noted that a large, real-term drop was recorded in state revenues last year, and this must serve as a warning to the policymakers that expenditures not exceed income. At the moment the Knesset is debating the state budget for fiscal year 1984, in the second reading.

Knesset Approves Budget 57-52

TA281915 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] The Knesset approved the State budget at its third reading; 57 coalition MK's were in favor, and 52 opposition MK's voted against. The Knesset also passed a number of important economic bills on third reading.

Foreign Ministry Reacts to EC Announcement

TA290838 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 29 Mar 84 p 3

[Text] Israel has a deep commitment to conduct negotiations on achieving peace in the area, as was agreed upon at Camp David. This was said yesterday by the Foreign Ministry spokesman in reaction to an announcement by the 10 EC countries about the need for incorporating the PLO in the peace process in the area. The spokesman recalled that the prime minister had recently repeated his call to Jordan to join the peace process. It is only within the framework of negotiations that the issue of Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza can be dealt with meaningfully.

Press on Jerusalem Issue, Camp David Accords

TA280834 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0430 GMT 28 Mar 84

[From the review of morning press editorials]

[Text] *HATZOFE* says that President Reagan's firm stand on the issue of Jerusalem, which is so sensitive and important for

every Jew, necessarily causes worry for many. This step amounts to estrangement from the Jewish nation and the Jewish people, for whom the prayer "If I forget you, O Jerusalem, let my right hand wither!" is always in front of their eyes. More than this, the impression is that President Reagan, in his battle against transferring the U.S. Embassy to Jerusalem, is taking a one-sided stand, in which his sympathy for the Arabs is obvious, while completely ignoring the Jews. Jerusalem was never an Arab city, nor a capital of any Islamic country. It has always been the eternal capital of the Israeli nation, and such it will stay forever, whether Reagan agrees to this or whether he makes use of his veto power in order to foil the desire of most of the representatives of the people of the United States, who are calling on him to transfer the U.S. Embassy to Jerusalem.

THE JERUSALEM POST writes that the Camp David agreements provide a framework which has remained empty in its provisions for the West Bank and Gaza. It can be argued that the agreements continued status as the cornerstone of U.S. and Israeli policy has served to retard, rather than advance, further movement.

Should the Labor Party return to power in the coming elections, and Mr Peres' proposals become official Israeli policy, the chances of Mr Rumsfeld or whoever succeeds him making some progress on the peace front in 1985 would be greatly improved.

Pentagon Reportedly Indignant Over Arens Remarks

TA281143 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew
28 Mar 84 p 1

["Exclusive" report from the United States by 'Uzi Benziman]

[Text] Indignation is prevailing in the Pentagon over remarks attributed to Israeli Defense Minister Moshe Arens in *THE NEW YORK TIMES*.

Although U.S. Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger has refrained from reacting publicly to the remarks, in which Arens was quoted as saying that Weinberger needs psychiatric treatment as a result of his Jewish background, these remarks have left their traces.

Pentagon officials recently claimed that the reporter who quoted these remarks of Arens could not have rendered better service to those Pentagon elements, Weinberger first and foremost, who have not manifested sympathy to Israel right from the start. As *HA'ARETZ* reported, Weinberger has for the time being postponed a visit to Israel, although he had decided on this prior to *THE NEW YORK TIMES* report.

Romanian Minister Pay Visit To Encourage Tourism

TA231915 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew
1815 GMT 23 Mar 84

[Excerpts] Romanian Minister of Tourism and Sports Nicolae Gavrilescu arrived this morning for a short visit to Israel. He will be the guest of Tourism Minister Avraham Sharir, and will meet with the prime minister and the president. Our correspondent Rami Gubernik spoke to the Romanian minister and his host at the airport:

[Begin recording] [Gubernik] Nicolae Gavrilescu is the minister of tourism, but also the minister of sports in the Romanian government. His visit will be devoted to these two subjects. His Israeli hosts say he is an interesting man. Among other things he was the ambassador of his country to China for 5 years. In Israel, the Romanian minister will try to increase tourism, bringing more Israeli tourists to Romania and more Romanian tourists to Israel.

[Gubernik] The Romanian minister will meet with the prime minister and the president. Among other things on the agenda will be the possibility of Romanian mediation in opening the gates of East European countries for tourism, and perhaps even trade agreements with Israel. His Israeli hosts say that the visit of a Romanian minister to Israel is not a routine matter. The visit will have political ramifications.

[Sharir] We talked when I visited Romania, and we will continue the talks here on their helping us open the gates — in both directions — to other countries in Eastern Europe and in other places where we have no ties. From this viewpoint, this visit is very important for increasing the level of international diplomatic activity on the part of Israel, above and beyond the limit of tourism. [end recording]

Tourism to PRC Discussed

TA270943 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew
27 Mar 84 p 5

[Text] Romanian Minister of Tourism and Sports Nicolae Gavrilescu, who is currently visiting Israel, has announced that he will try to reach an arrangement that will enable Israelis to tour in the PRC.

The Romanian minister promised that he would discuss the matter with the Chinese foreign minister, who is scheduled to visit Bucharest next week. Minister Gavrilescu served as Romania's ambassador to Beijing for almost 6 years. According to the Romanian minister's proposal, Israelis would travel to the PRC and to other countries behind the Iron Curtain via Romania by means of a tourism package deal that would also include a visit to Romania. Announcing this at a dinner party held in Jerusalem for the visiting Romanian minister, Tourism Minister Avraham Sharir expressed the hope that Mr Gavrilescu's initiative would bear fruit.

Further Tourism Ventures Planned

TA280728 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English
28 Mar 84 p 3

[Report by Aaron Sittner]

[Text] An indirect appeal to China to permit Israelis to visit there will be made next week when Beijing's foreign minister visits Bucharest, *THE JERUSALEM POST* learned yesterday. At present, holders of Israeli passports are not permitted into the

People's Republic of China. The appeal will be made by Romanian Tourism Minister Nicolae Gavrilescu, who leaves for home today after a week-long visit in Israel as guest of the Tourism Ministry. Gavrilescu served for six years as his country's envoy to Beijing.

During his visit, Gavrilescu — who represents the only East European government that maintains diplomatic relations with Israel — met with President Herzog and Prime Minister Shamir.

Winding up his stay, Gavrilescu announced in Jerusalem yesterday that some of his aides will come to Israel in June to work out details on joint tourism ventures he had agreed on with his Israeli counterpart. Among the plans are an "Israel Folklore Week" in Romania and cooperation by the two countries in selling Israel-Romania package tours in the U.S. and Austria.

A Tourism Ministry official admitted yesterday that for every Romanian tourist who came to Israel in 1983, there were 10 Israelis travelling to Romania on holiday.

What is more, a substantial number of the 3,000 Romanians who visited there last year were members of official or professional delegations and not strictly tourists.

The Tourism Ministry announced yesterday that it will invest $2.1 million soon in an advertising promotion aimed at selling Israel to European holidaymakers. The ministry has invited all European advertising agencies to bid on a tender it will offer in Paris, ministry official Tzvi Rimon said.

Visit Ends 28 March

TA281618 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1610 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] Ben-Gurion Airport, 28 Mar (ITIM) — Romanian Minister of Tourism Nicolae Gavrilescu ended his 5-day official visit to Israel this morning and departed for Bucharest.

Summing up the visit, the Tourism Ministry officials said that the visit was particularly successful and that now a delegation of Romanian specialists is expected to work out the specifics of the agreement signed between the two ministers and ensure that it is implemented.

Tourism Minister Avraham Sharir took leave of the guest yesterday at midnight, and at the airport he was seen off by Tourism Ministry Director General Rafi Farber, a representative of the Foreign Ministry and Romania's ambassador to Israel.

Among other things, it was decided than an "Israel Week" will be held in one of the larger Bucharest hotels to promote tourism to Israel, but the date for that event has not yet been set.

The visiting minister expressed his satisfaction with the deliberations he had conducted here, and said he hoped bilateral tourism will grow and develop.

Soviet Delegation Members on Relations With Israel

TA281311 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 28 Mar 84 p 9

[Article By Mikha'el Handelsaltz: "The Guests Who Will Return to the Cold"]

[Excerpts] The Soviet delegation visiting Israel was much impressed by the warm reception and the criticism heard in Israel against the Israeli Government's aggressive policy. The head of the delegation, Dr Yuriy Barabash, the editor-in-chief of *SOVETSKAYA KULTURA*, noted this fact as the most important achievement of the delegation's visit. He is a well-dressed person, very restrained, with penetrating blue eyes and dark blond hair, smooth and properly combed. He dismissed the protests he heard, although he expressed indignation about the fact that in all meetings the very same issues were repeatedly brought up: the Soviet Jews, and the resumption of diplomatic relations. The delegation members' answers to these questions sounded like quotes from texts that had been well learned. Dr Wilhelm Gruend, another delegation member, said: "You ask as if you were horses with blinders on, as if you did not see the wider problems of world peace." Barabash, who is an expert in diplomacy, hurried to stress that he was not disappointed with the recurrent questions, that he was certainly aware that they interested the Israeli public, but that they were not the main point.

The resumption of diplomatic relations is impossible at the moment, according to Barabash, since this would have given an official seal to the existing situation in which Israel is present in the occupied territories and its army is present in Lebanon. "We must not forget the reason for the severance of relations," he said.

Barabash also heads of the Soviet Committee for Friendship and Solidarity With the Palestinian People. In this definition he of course includes the Israeli Arabs (with whose representatives he met during this visit), but the emphasis is put on the Arabs who left Israel after the war of independence. Why is there no association in the Soviet Union for friendship with the Jewish people or with the State of Israel? You do not need solidarity or defense, Barabash answered, emphasizing that the Soviet Union is not for or against the State of Israel, but only against its government's policy.

Barabash does not see practical results to this visit, which took place on an uncharacteristic date: neither on the occasion of the RAKAH convention, nor on the occasion of the day of victory over Nazi Germany. It is the meetings themselves that seem important to him, more than practical goals.

Gruend also met with Peace Now members, and was disappointed that its members are interested only in peace with the Arab, and not in world peace. Israel reminds him a little of Malta which he had visited earlier.

He regrets he could not visit East Jerusalem. "This was outside the goals of our trip," Barabash said, but he did meet as many Palestinians as he wished.

Terrorist Group Threatens German Plants, Workers

TA281326 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] A leaflet received today by a German news agency in Bonn states that the terrorist group TNT [Terror Against Terror] will strike at German plants and workers manufacturing arms for Saudi Arabia. In reaction to this, the Israeli Embassy in Bonn stated that this could be an act of provocation by an organization that is hostile to Israel.

Minister Ne'eman on Further Settlement Plans

TA290943 Tel Aviv BAMAHANE in Hebrew 28 Mar 84 p 5

[Report by 'Eran (Schenker)]

[Text] "In the coming year, 16 new settlements are to be established by the government in Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza. The fleshing-out of the existing settlements will continue, and steps will be taken to increase private settlement." This was stated by the chairman of the Ministerial Committee on Settlement Affairs, Minister Yuval Ne'eman, in reply to remarks made last week by President Reagan.

The minister expressed amazement and asked why it was the custom in the West to think that peace was only good for Israel, and so Israel was required to make concessions, as though peace was not good for the Arabs. The minister pointed out that Israel had recently signed two agreements (with Egypt and Lebanon) with the encouragement of the Americans, making difficult concessions in Sinai, one of which had been abrogated and the second was wavering.

As for the status of Jerusalem as the capital of Israel, the minister said that this had been determined 3,000 years before Washington's status as the capital of the United States was determined.

New Settlement Drive Planned Before Elections

TA281933 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] A settlement momentum in the territories will come into effect even before the elections. Our settlement affairs correspondent, Rami Gobernik, reports that settlment authoriries have submitted to the Treasury a series of demands for an increase in the settlement budget by billions of shekels. The World Zionist Organization's settlement department is demanding over 1 billion shekels, and Gush Emunim's AMANA [settlement movement] is demanding 2 billion shekels. Our correspondent reports that the ministerial committee on settlement affairs will likely approve next week the establishment of two privately-built settlements in Samaria: Ya'arit and Niriyya. The committee will be asked to approve the conversion into civilian settlements of four military footholds: Giv'at Levona, Ma'ale Levona, Livna, and Neta'.

Our correspondent adds that the Defense Ministry is taking action to establish additional settlements in the territories, and is planning to set up five military footholds in Judaea and Samaria, subsequently converting them into permanent civilian settlements.

Civilian Administration Against West Bank Elections

TA281238 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] The head of the Civilian Administration in Judaea and Samaria, in a statement to the Supreme Court, said that the State of Israel has a clear interest in not allowing hostile organizations to again use local elections in Judaea and Samaria for subversive activities. Therefore, the administration remains firm in its stand against local elections in the area. Our correspondent Avshalom Ginosar reports that these remarks were included in the administration's reply to an appeal for elections for their town by the former mayor of Dura and members of its council who had been deposed by the authorities.

West Bank School Closed Following 27 Mar Incidents

TA281244 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 28 Mar 84 p 3

[Report by the West Bank correspondent]

[TexLL Disturbances and stoning incidents took place in the West Bank yesterday. Most of the activity was concentrated in the rural area south of Bethlehem where youths threw stones at Israeli vehicles which were travelling near the villages of Nahhalin, Husan, and Al-Khidr. Nobody was hurt and no damage was caused.

Stones were thrown at a bus which was travelling near the Al-'Amarah refugee camp in the Ramallah area. The bus windshield was smashed but nobody was hurt. Ramallah high school students threw stones at the governor. In reaction this new high school, (Ash-Shimiyah), was closed indefinitely by order of the regional commander.

There were further disturbances in Janin. The night before yesterday two Molotov cocktails were thrown at a Border Police patrol which was travelling near the Nur ash-Shams refugee camp near Tulkarm. Nobody was hurt and no damage was inflicted. A number of suspects have been detained.

Two Wounded by Israelis

TA291033 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 29 Mar 84

[Text] In the ('Ayn Bayt Alma) refugee camp near Nabulus, two local youths were wounded last night from shots fired at them by Israelis. They were taken for treatment to the Rafidiyah hospital in Nabulus. Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that an investigaiton was launched on the circumstances of their injury.

In Judaea and Samaria there are disturbances today on the eve of Land Day. In some places the security forces dispersed those throwing stones. In Bayt Sahur and the Al-'Amarah refugee

camp near Ramallah, the windshields of two cars were smashed. Our correspondent reports that the Military Government is taking preventive measures before Land Day. Many people have been held under preventive detention, and the shopkeepers have been warned not to close their shops.

National Security Law for Jews in Territories

TA270922 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 27 Mar 84 p 13

[Report by Amnon Raz]

[Excerpts] A law has been passed recently granting national security rights to Jewish inhabitants in the territories. The law does not apply to some 30,000 Arabs holding Israeli identity cards who live in the vicinity of Jerusalem.

"The settlers exerted pressure on the National Security Institute [NII], and that is how they received illegitimate payments," NII officials say, "the application of the new law legally endorses a previously illegal situation."

A senior NII official said that the law may also be applied to the inhabitants of Jerusalem. Inhabitants of East Jerusalem had been enjoying all the national security rights until 6 months ago, according to a ministerial committee decision made in 1973. However, as soon as the new law went into effect the NII gradually began to withdraw those rights from the inhabitants of East Jerusalem.

The new law is called the "Law to Amend and Extend the Effect of the Emergency Regulations of 1948." The law went into effect in January 1984 and applies to settlements in the West Bank and Gaza District and to every inhabitant who is an Israeli citizen.

Arab Committee Land Day Events Authorized

TA271541 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 27 Mar 84

[Text] Members of the Arab Committee for Defense of Land have said that the police have given permission in principle for them to convene two rallies on Land Day, in 'Arraba in Galilee and At-Taiyiba in the Triangle. Our correspondent Bassam Ja'bar reports that a request to convene a similar meeting in (Rahat) in the Negev has not been approved. The committee's chairman, (Saliba Khamis), criticized the police announcement that the police would react firmly if a PLO flag were to be flown at the rallies. He said there was no intention of flying flags; however, it was inconceivable that the police should intervene if an enthusiastic person were to fly such a flag.

Disturbances Reported in Connection With Land Day

TA290924 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 0745 GMT 29 Mar 84

[Text] Sakhnin, 29 March (ITIM) — Despite the police assessment that tomorrow's "Land Day" will pass quietly and without any special events, it is feared that extremist elements will try to cause agitation and what is defined as "provocation."

Meanwhile, as Land Day approaches, there are growing signs of phenomena which characterize the day. This morning a PLO flag was flown in the center of Sakhnin, and the head of the local council, Muhammad Ghanim, was directed to order its removal.

The road leading to the Harrarit observation post was blocked by rocks, and the border police and police forces had to remove the rocks and begin an investigation. So far no arrests have been made.

The ITIM correspondent notes that this week an olive orchard in Mikhamanim was uprooted and a fence between Mikhamanim and Ma'ale Zviyya was taken down. In addition, several times this week PLO flags were flown in the villages of 'Arraba and Sakhnin.

The organizers of the assemblies which will take place tomorrow afternoon in the villages of 'Arraba in the western Galilee, At Taiyiba in the Triangle, and Rahat in the Negev called on the Arab population to keep public order so as to prevent police provocation, as they called it.

It has been learned that extremist elements from the Sons of the Village Movement and the Muslim Brotherhood will in all likelihood try to cause agitation by inciting youths.

The police have already finished their preparations. Front line operations centers have been set up in the most sensitive areas. In the headquarters of the Northern District, a special headquarters has been set up into which all the information from the territory will be channeled, and from which directions will be issued on the ways to handle the disturbances, if any occur. Large units of border police and police were deployed today in the Galilee, the Triangle, and the Negev. Border police are already patroling the roads in order to deter extremist elements from blocking them.

The Shinuy movement is conducting a publicity campaign in Nazareth and Upper Nazareth, calling on the population not to cooperate with members of the MENA [Upper Nazareth Defenders] movement, who intend to hold an assembly on Friday morning protesting the rental of apartments in Upper Nazareth by Jews to Arabs. Also, disregarding the license they received from the police, the MENA movement members said they will attempt to descend from Upper Nazareth to Nazareth in order to burn a PLO flag in public.

The ITIM correspondent adds that the police have made it clear to the organizers that they will act firmly against the MENA movement if it carries out its threat and goes to Nazareth.

Deterrent Moves Initiated

TA290930 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 29 Mar 84 p 16

[Report by Pinhas 'Inbari]

[Text] In the last few days, the military government in the territories has initiated deterrent moves in preparation for Land Day, which occurs at the end of March. Inter alia, orders have

been issued banning public figures in Gaza from going to the West Bank and East Jerusalem during the days close to Land Day, and the military governors have warned activists suspected of incitement.

Over the past few days, there has been a slight rise in such breaches of the peace - stones being thrown at Israeli vehicles in the territories, Palestinian flags being flown, and tires set on fire. In many educational institutions the exmination period is now at its peak or the students are on their semester recess. Because of this, there is a possibility that Land Day demonstrations will be postponed by several days and not held on the actual date, 31 March.

The MAPAM young generation is calling upon Israel's Arabs to keep calm and order on Land Day. The young generation is also calling upon the security forces to avoid provoking the inhabitants and entering the villages.

Three IDF Soldiers Slightly Wounded in Gaza Strip

TA290957 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0950 GMT 29 Mar 84

[Text] Three IDF soldiers were slightly wounded this morning when a hand grenade was thrown at an IDF patrol in Jabalyah, which is in the Gaza Strip. Seven local residents were also wounded. The IDF forces have begun a search. This was reported by the IDF spokesman.

Villagers Killed in Clash With Southern Lebanon Army

TA281110 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1048 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] Two IDF soldiers were wounded this morning from small arms fire that was directed from ambush at IDF vehicles driving in the 'Arab Salim area. The IDF forces began a search. This was reported by the IDF spokesman.

Three inhabitants of the Shi'ite village of Jibshit in southern Lebanon were killed and ten others were wounded in exchanges of fire with the southern Lebanese army. The incident started after iron pipes and other materials were thrown at a force that entered the village. In searches conducted by a southern Lebanese army force, various weapons and explosive devices were discovered. Our correspondent in the north Menahem Horowitz reports that the village is now under curfew.

Jibshit Suspects Arrested

TA281443 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1420 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] In the course of the day, the security forces arrested a few dozen inhabitants of Jibshit, suspected of having dealt with terrorist attacks or attempts against IDF units in the An-Nabatiyah area. The suspects were found to possess weapons, including among others, submachine guns, guns, and hand grenades. The security forces' investigation is still underway. This was announced by the IDF spokesman.

Our correspondent in the north Menahem Horowitz adds that the curfew in Jibshit is still in effect. Let us recall that in the exchange of fire between the southern Lebanese army soldiers and the inhabitants of the village this morning 3 local inhabitants were killed and 10 were wounded.

Burial Services Prohibited

TA281722 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] The security forces in southern Lebanon this afternoon did not allow the Jibshit clerics to bury three inhabitants killed this morning by shots fired by the southern Lebanese army in the course of a violent demonstration. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that there was fear that the burial ceremony would be exploited to stir up further demonstrations. The curfew on Jibshit is still in effect.

Senior IDF officers have said that they are satisfied with the conduct shown by Haddad's soldiers in the village, adding that the troops closely followed the instructions on opening fire.

IDF Soldiers Wounded in Lebanon Explosion

TA291058 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1052 GMT 29 Mar 84

[Text] This morning four IDF soldiers were wounded in a mine explosion while combing operations were underway in the region of the village of Ar-Rayhan, some 9 km southeast of An-Nabatiyah. The IDF spokesman reports that this morning an explosive device that had been placed at the side of the road exploded in the region of Ar-Rayhan as IDF vehicles were passing by. There were no casualties from that explosion. An IDF force that reached the spot began combing operations. During the combing operations, one of the force's soldiers set off a mine and, as stated, four IDF soldiers were wounded in the explosion. During the combing operations five other explosive devices were discovered and defused.

Ilia Appointed To Head Lebanon Liaison Unit

TA281720 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] Brigadier General Shlomo Ilia has been appointed the head of the Lebanon liaison unit instead of Brigadier General Me'ir Dagan. Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal reports that the appointment has elicited criticism because Brig Gen Ilia was dismissed from the post of head of the Judaea and Samaria Civilian Administration a few months ago. MK Yosi Sarid of the Alignment told our correspondent the appointment is surprising: Either there was no point dismissing Ilia from his previous post, or the real mistake is being made now.

The defense minister's media affairs adviser, Nahman Shay, explained that Minister Arens talked with MK Saris on the telephone about the matter, adding that he is satisfied that Sarid had been given the necessary explanations. He added that Brig Gen Ilia was not disqualified from serving in the IDF and no

limitations have been imposed on his future service in the IDF ranks. At the time he was tried and was penalized.

Our correspondent points out that Brig Gen Ilia was convicted of noncompliance with orders and taking excessive advantage of his authority.

Christian Refugees Return North of Al-Awwali

TA280852 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] In the last few days some 2,500 Christian refugees from the Al-Kharrub region in Lebanon have returned to their homes north of the Al-Awwali.

Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that the operation to return some 20,000 Christian refugees to their homes is continuing.

Meanwhile, the attempt to open up the coastal road between Sidon and Beirut has failed, since the landing craft which were supposed to transfer the Phalangists from the Ad-Damur port were not able to land due to a storm in the area.

Refugee Return Continues

TA290535 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 29 Mar 84

[Text] In the Al-Kharrub region north of the Al-Awwali, the operation is continuing to return the Christian refugees to their homes. So far about 5000 refugees who stayed for about 2 months in public buildings in the area of Sidon have returned on their own. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that today the Phalangists will complete the evacuation of their forces from the area between the Al-Awwali River and Ad-Damur. They have already evacuated most of their weapons via the sea. Yesterday 43 armored personnel carriers, five tanks, and trucks loaded with mortars and machine guns were moved from the port of Al-Jiyah to Juniyah. A large part of this equipment fell into the hands of the Phalangists when the 4th Brigade of the Lebanese Army fell apart.

Portuguese Prime Minister Accepts Invitation To Visit

TA271623 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 27 Mar 84

[Text] Portuguese Prime Minister Mario Soares has accepted Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir's invitation to visit Israel. It has been reported from Lisbon that the date of the visit will be set in consultations between the two countries.

ALGERIA

Niger Prime Minister Comments on Talks Before Leaving

LD281759 Algiers APS in Arabic 1400 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Excerpts] Algiers, 28 Mar (APS) — This morning Niger Prime Minister Mr Hamid Algabid left Algeria following a 3-day official visit, during which he was received by President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the republic and secretary general of the party. He handed him a message from Niger President Seyni Kountche. He held talks with his Algerian counterpart, Mr Abdelhamid Brahimi, alternate member of the Political Bureau and prime minister.

Before his departure he stated: "The results of my visit to Algeria are very positive, because in all the problems that we discussed with the Algerian side we met with full support and shared viewpoints."

Concerning Western Sahara, the Niger prime minister mentioned: "Our position and the Algerian position are very close to each other, because we are all committed to implementing the resolutions of the OAU summits, especially the latest. In this concern there is no place for private comments. We intend to implement this resolution. This will not be easy. The details might possibly need concentrated efforts and contacts in order to achieve this implementation."

As for Chad, the Niger prime minister mentioned that there is also complete sharing of viewpoints, that we are all in favor of rapprochement among the Chadians, and that we all believe that the problem of Chad can be solved only by the Chadians themselves. Thus, external interventions must be avoided as much as possible. We believe that the time is right for the Chadians to discuss among themselves a solution to the problem. The Niger prime minister ended his statement by talking about Namibia, saying: "We are all for the independence of Namibia, and efforts must continue in this respect."

Diplomat Discusses Iraq-Iran Mediation Efforts

GF290455 Kuwait AS-SIYASAH in Arabic 27 Mar 84 pp 1, 18

["Exclusive" report]

[Excerpts] The Algerian dialogue with both Baghdad and Tehran has not stopped. Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid has not abandoned the Algerian effort to reconcile the conflicting views of both sides and to stop the war and enter peaceful negotiations.

Any attempt by some other parties to place obstacles before the Algerian role in this direction will be overcome for the sake of the national interest and for the sake of achieving peace between the two Muslim neighbors. This is what was confirmed to *AS-SIYASAH* yesterday by a prominent Algerian diplomat, who is connected to the political move to stop the war and to achieve a formula which the conflicting parties in the Gulf will agree upon.

The Algerian diplomat added that when his country decided to mediate between Baghdad and Tehran, it set conditions which both sides agreed upon before playing this role. He said: The mediation began amid difficulties and obstacles of well-known size and potential, but in spite of that we managed to formulate a definite framework sketch which both Baghdad and Tehran agreed upon.

The framework is based on three main points:

1. Achieving a cease-fire and returning the warring forces to prewar positions.

2. The principle of compensation applying to both parties.

3. Returning to the 1975 Algiers agreement as a basis for the peace negotiations.

The Algerian diplomat said that these three points are still the basis of dialogue and the mediation sponsered by the Algerian diplomacy with the disputing parties. The Algerian diplomat believes that the dangerous escalation of the military confrontation between Iraq and Iran necessitates intensifying contacts through the right channels in order to conduct a fruitful and constructive dialogue between the two parties and not through channels that will further complicate the situation and widen the gap between viewpoints instead of bringing them together so as to reach a formula which will help in stopping the fight. This mission is difficult and demands flexibility and quiet diplomacy. The news media are not the only means through which mediation and agreement can be conducted.

LIBYA

Al-Qadhdhafi Warns U.S. To Withdraw From Region

NC281247 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 0952 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Speech delivered by Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi during a celebration held at the Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir base in Tobruq to mark the 14th anniversary of the expulsion of the British troops and the closure of their bases in Libya — live]

[Text] Brothers, we stand inside the Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir base to commemorate the 14th anniversary of the expulsion of the imperialist British forces from the land of Tobruq. This base was called the British Adem base. It is now called the Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir base.

Brothers, it is this base which graduated the Ramadan [October 1973] war pilots who bombed and destroyed the Bar-Lev line. This base was a symbol of Arab unity and a symbol of the unity of the Libyan and Egyptian Armed Forces. It is the base which prepared the October heroic pilots, whom As-Sadat sold at a cheap price to Zionism and imperialism. Husni Mubarak, the present president of the Arab Republic of Egypt, testified that when he was commander of the Egyptian Air Force this base was completely placed at the disposal of his Air Force. Squadrons of Egyptian pilots graduated from this base. They fought against the Zionist occupation and destroyed Zionist positions on the canal, on the Bar-Lev line, and in Sinai.

Brothers, this base was not a Libyan base; it was an Arab base. This base played a role in liberating Egypt and Sinai and in defeating Zionism. When we liberated this base from the British, we did not exploit it in the interests of Libya or the Libyan people alone. It was turned into a national base bearing the name of the great 'Abd an-Nasir — 'Abd an-Nasir, the symbol of Arab unity; 'Abd an-Nasir, the hero of Arab nationalism. [cheers and applause]

The buried As-Sadat, who paid the price of national treason — every traitor of this Arab nation will pay the price — committed the abominable crime for which he was sentenced to death when, in 1977, he ordered the pilots who had graduated from the Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir base to try to destroy it. However, these pilots, who were ordered to do this by the accursed buried traitor As-Sadat, refused to destroy the base which turned out highly efficient pilots. They refused to destroy the base from which they had graduated and which had turned them into highly efficient pilots. They refused to destroy the base on which they had depended in their honorable battle against Zionism. They dropped their bombs far from this base. They carried out several raids against their will and upon the orders of this traitor. However, they refused to destroy this base. Our greetings to the October pilots and to the Egyptian pilots who graduated from the Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir base and who disobeyed the orders of the accursed traitor As-Sadat.

Brothers, we declare today that the Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir base continues to be the Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir base in the service of Arab nationalism. It supports the Egyptian people in their forthcoming battle against reaction, stable David [Camp David accords], and Zionism and for the liberation of the Sinai, which has not yet been liberated. Its liberation was a fake and sham liberation. The proof is that the Egyptian Army and the Egyptian Air Force cannot fly in the skies of the Sinai. The Egyptian Ground Forces cannot enter the Sinai. The Sinai is still under Zionist domination and under the foreign control of the multinational forces that are hostile to the Egyptian people.

Brothers, we declare that the Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir base is still ready to receive the honest Egyptian pilots.

We are still ready to place this base once again at the service of the Egyptian people, the liberation battle of the Egyptian people, and the liberation battle of the Arab nation. This base which bears the name of Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir cannot be a regional base. It can only be faithful to Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir, whose name it bears. We called it the Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir base because in 1956, British aircraft flew from it to participate in the tripartite aggression against fraternal Egypt. From this base an aggression was launched against Egypt and against 'Abd an-Nasir, as well as against the 23 July revolution. For this reason we liberated this base in 1970 from British control. We called it the Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir base in order to vex the colonialists who did not believe this base could be freed from their domination or bear the name of Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir, whom they wanted to destroy from this base. They launched air raids against him from this base. This base was liberated by the revolution. Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir's name, brothers, was given to it despite the British. The name of Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir, brothers, will remain immortal as long as the Arab nation, Arab nationalism, and the Arab nation's future are immortal. [applause]

In this place, as we celebrate the liberation of a part of this homeland, we are very sorry to see another part of this homeland fall under the boot of the same colonialism. We here are celebrating the liberation of this base and its skies from the colonialist air force control. We now see that other Arab skies in Egypt and Sudan are completely under the control of the U.S. Air Force, the real enemy of the Arab nation. What a loss, brothers, that the traitors and agents inflict on the issue of the Arab homeland's freedom. What contradictions exist in the Arab arena. The problem of contradictions can only be solved by a struggle that will decisively settle the argument in this issue. Contradictions are rife in this issue. The contradictions only meet in the arena of struggle.

The banners of freedom are hoisted in the Libyan skies, where also the Libyan Arab Air Force is flying with pride — challenging and confident. In the Egyptian skies the American planes are flying and humiliating the great Egyptian people, gloating at the Egyptian free men, defying the Arab will, and trying to prove to the world that the Zionist camp is surviving, because the American Air Force — which considers the Zionist camp as its forward base — is in control of the Egyptian and Sudanese skies.

What a shame. Following each fabricated incident, rescue calls are made to the United States to send U.S. spy planes. What a farce. Rescue calls were made for U.S. AWACS aircraft 4 times in 1 year, as if Egypt and Sudan — which represent half the Arab nation's population — cannot defend themselves, cannot feel assured, and cannot preserve their security except with U.S. aircraft. This is a shame for the Egyptian and Sudanese armies. This is a shame for the Egyptian and Sudanese people.

Following each fabricated incident, rescue calls are immediately made to the United States, as if Egypt has no air defense system, or an air force. Egypt has said it will protect Sudan. Egypt has pledged to protect Sudan. If Egypt can protect Sudan, then why can it not protect itself, having to seek the help of U.S. spy aircraft 4 times in 1 year. They said it so that they may help us in our defense. [sentence as heard] But the Egyptian Government has pledged to protect Sudan. He who has nothing cannot give.

The Sudanese Government must face its inevitable doom soon. The Sudanese Government must realize that he who has nothing cannot give; namely, that the Egyptian Government on which the miserable man of Khartoum depends is unable to protect itself and has to seek the help of U.S. aircraft each time it is afraid.

The revolution in Sudan is continuing. The U.S. AWACS aircraft will not be able to stop this revolution. The United States was not able to protect Idris as-Sanusi. This base used to have the British Air Force, and the British naval forces used to land along the entire coast of Libya. Idris as-Sanusi's palace was near this base. But he has fallen as a result of the revolution, and this base was not able to protect agent Idris as-Sanusi.

The United States was not able to protect the agent shah from the popular revolution. The Iranian people staged a revolution without weapons. The weapons were in the hands of the U.S.

agents. The shah and his forces possessed the most modern weapons, while the masses of the Iranian people were without weapons. The defenseless people triumphed with a popular revolution over the shah. The shah left, and the shah's regime was toppled despite the United States.

O agents of the United States in Egypt and Sudan: The United States was not able to protect Haile Selassie, who was toppled by a revolution. The United States was not able to protect Lon Nol in Cambodia, nor Cao Ky in Saigon. The U.S. agents fell one after the other without the United States being able to protect them. When the shah fell, the United States refused to host him. This is a lesson for those who want to learn. Those who count on the United States must remember the fate of the shah, the fate of Haile Selassie, and the fate of Idris as-Sanusi.

When we launched our revolution, Idris as-Sanusi, who was an agent of colonialism, was in Europe. The colonialist forces were stationed in Libya. When the revolution was launched, the agents fell and their masters were unable to protect them. We scoff at and ridicule the U.S. agents in Egypt and Sudan who believe that the United States can protect them from the Egyptian and Sudanese armies and peoples. We know for sure that the revolution is inevitably coming in Egypt and Sudan. We know for sure that there are military and civilian revolutionaries who are working day and night to destroy the treason and agentry. They are working to liberate the Arab land and achieve Arab unity. We know this and stand by them with all our strength. The United States does not know this and cannot stand forcefully by its agents.

Brothers, there is no personal enmity between us and the current Egyptian president. He knows how much Libya offered to Egypt during its battles, and particularly to the Egyptian Armed Forces, after the revolution in Libya. He was the commander of the Egyptian Air Force and knows about the Libyan air support and Libyan air defense as well as the Libyan ground and naval forces. The Egyptians know that the equipment with which they crossed the Suez was Libyan — the boats and recoilless guns. Husni Mubarak knows that we placed all our resources at the disposal of the Egyptian Armed Forces. As-Sadat denied this; not only did he deny this, but he denied everything. He even denied Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir's role in our history. As-Sadat cannot be compared with others, because he is an outcast.

I hope that Husni Mubarak will not deny the duty — and not the favor — the duty that Libya did on the side of the Egyptian Armed Forces, particularly during the October war. I emphasize in particular the Libyan Air Force which he led. We consider Husni Mubarak a person who knows Libya's role. He knows that the Israelis are the real enemies who fought him and he fought them. He knows that the United States is the country that supported the Zionist enemy against Egypt and against the Arab nation. I believe that he knows that the real enemy of Egypt is not Libya, but the Israelis and Americans — the historical enemy who are gloating over Egypt and do not want Egypt to prosper. The Americans can never permit Egypt to become strong economically or militarily. They want Egypt to be always in need of the United States so that it will remain a zone of influence for the United States.

I believe that Husni Mubarak has been involved in As-Sadat's treason. We tried to find justifications for Husni Mubarak that he was involuntarily involved in As-Sadat's treason and legacy. If Husni Mubarak wants to emerge from the Camp David stable, because only donkeys remain in stables — As-Sadat was one of these animals; As-Sadat's right place was the Stable David — I hope that Egypt will not be judged as a herd of animals and remain in the filthy Stable David. If Husni Mubarak wants to emerge from this stable, we announce that our resources are, and I urge the Libyan people to place all their resources — military, economic, and moral resources — at the disposal of Egypt. [applause] I urge the Libyan people to place all their resources at the disposal of fraternal Egypt to help it emerge from its ordeal. We and our Egyptian brothers know that the United States is a real, historic, and arch enemy of Egypt. They know that the United States will not allow Egypt to make progress.

The United States cannot save Sudan from the revolution or from the destructive economic collapse. 'Abd an-Nasir said if unity were established among Egypt, Sudan, and Libya, then a great state would emerge. He said this would be the great state that would save Egypt and Sudan from an economic collapse and would protect them against the joint Zionist and imperialist enemy. This is what the unity among Libya, Egypt, Sudan can do.

We declare that we are ready to rebuild the unity of Libya, Egypt, and Sudan against Zionism and imperialism and to place our resources in the service of this unity. We know that a dialogue with the regime in Khartoum is a dialogue with the deaf. The riddance of this regime is nearer than reaching understanding with it, because the revolution marching from the south will inevitably come to Khartoum to liberate it. Nobody will be able to stop it, God willing. We support this revolution. We support the Sudanese people and army against agentry, treason, and against the rule of the sick man who obstructed the progress of Sudan. He obstructed its progress and forged the will of 20 million Sudanese Arabs. He obstructed the Nile's capacities — the White Nile and the Blue Nile — and Sudan's huge resources. He has not been able even to irrigate Sudan from the Nile. [cheers]

It was possible for the Egyptian regime to find an exit from the Stable David and contemplate the linking of the Nile River with the great artificial river to convert the barren desert in Egypt, Sudan, and Libya into a green paradise. This is what the United States will not do. It can only be done by the unity of these three peoples — the nucleus of the Arab unity and the weight of the Arab nation and the heart of the Arab nation. It is the unity among Libya, Egypt, and Sudan. What will save the Egyptian and Sudanese people from poverty and hunger is linking of the Nile River with the great artificial river in Libya in order to convert this desert into a green land. This is what the United States cannot do for Egypt, Libya, or Sudan. The United States will instead prevent the implementation of such a project. The United States yesterday, last night, wanted to deceive the Egyptian regime and to involve it further. It wants the nations to clash with each other and squander their energies in local struggle. The United States told the Egyptian Government yesterday that Libya was marching on the border and that five Libyan planes will land at Cairo Airport today by force. A state of emergency

was declared in Egypt. The Egyptians made preparations to surround the planes.

We tell them that this is a U.S. lie. The United States is laughing at you and shows contempt for your information confirmed by your nationalist sources that there is no march. Tell the Egyptians to cancel the state of emergency and to get some rest, because no Libyan planes will land at Cairo Airport today. I affirm this to them, and I am responsible for what I say. And there is no march on the borders.

God willing, this march on these borders will come in the future. But why should we go to Egypt? Egypt is desecrated now because it is inside a stable. It is desecrated by Zionism. It is desecrated by U.S. AWACS aircraft.

We declare that as of today, 28 March, if the Egyptians want to come to Libya via the overland route, then they are welcome to come. If the Libyans want to go to the Egyptian people, to their kinsmen, in-laws, and travel by land, no one will prevent them. What is important is that no one prevents the Libyan people from visiting the Egyptian people and no one prevents the Egyptian people from visiting the Libyan people. As of today, anyone who wants to cross the border from our side of the border, we tell him he can cross. We don't know whether or not the Egyptian Government will let him in.

If any of you wants to go to Egypt, he can go. If an Egyptian wants to come to Libya, he is welcome. As of today, the Libyan authorities must not be responsible for arranging the departure of the brother Egyptians from Libya to Egypt via Europe, and they will not bear any expenses in this connection.

As far as the Libyan authorities are concerned, our Egyptian brothers who are in Libya at present and who wish to return to Egypt on a visit, on leave or return, can go overland from the Libyan side, and we shall not stop them. If Egyptians come to Libya over land, we do not prevent them. However, the United States and the Zionist enemy will issue orders to their agents not to implement this step.

At the popular education conference at the Science College of Al-Fatih University, I affirmed that cannot be considered a meeting with the Egyptian regime under any circumstances. The Egyptian regime is on the blacklist. We will make it easier for this regime to return [to the Arab ranks] and to leave the stable David, if this regime shows an intention to return and to emerge from the morass of treason in which the buried As-Sadat placed it. However, if this regime insists on remaining in the stable, we will be against it, we will agitate for its overthrow, and we will ally with the active forces in Egypt to get rid of the regime of treason. This is because we will never accept that Egypt shall always continue to recognize the Zionist enemy, to nurse and feed it, and to revive it economically and militarily.

The Arab nation will not accept that its largest group of Arab people remain open to the Zionist enemy, because the conflict between this nation and this enemy is one of existence. Either the Arab nation exists or it is replaced by a Zionist nation. We refuse to recognize a racist state which was established by force on the Arab land of Palestine, which built a hostile racist camp armed with nuclear weapons, and which is working to destroy the Arab entity. We will resist this entity with all the force available to this nation, and we will bolster its will, and liberate it day and night and nurture in our future generations the sacred spite against the Zionist camp. We will only recognize the elimination of the so-called Israel [which was established] by oppression and aggression, and the liberation of Palestine inch by inch from the Jordan River to the Mediterranean, even if this would entail our drenching it with our blood and marching to it on bridges of our bodies.

We do not recognize the so-called Palestinian people's rights; the Palestinian people have one right — that is, Palestine. The conflict between the Palestinian people and Zionism and those who stand behind it will continue until this nation, men and women, is annihilated, or Zionism is annihilated, and we liberate Palestine inch by inch and return it as an Arab country. [applause]

This is not merely talk, there are actions behind it. This speech is backed by continuous and persistent action. We can enable the Palestinian people to develop armed resistance until it can constitute a real threat to the Israeli settlements in the occupied land. We enabled the national forces in the Lebanese National Salvation Front to develop their struggle in a way that made the U.S., French, Italian, and British forces flee. The national forces have now reached the seacoast, when before they were besieged up in the mountains. Thus, brothers, with our resources, we can develop the Palestinian people's armed struggle to constitute a real threat to the Zionist enemy. This is because the Palestinian people cannot possibly remain refugees forever. We will not recognize an entity that has replaced the Palestinian people. This logic and fallacy is rejected — the Palestinian people's (?fall) and recognition of the so-called Israel. This fallacy, which implies contempt for the Arab mind [idrak 'arabi], is rejected. This fallacy implies disdain for the Palestinian people and the Arab nation. The agents must understand that recognition of Israel means nonrecognition of the Palestinian people and Palestine; recognition of the Palestinian people runs counter to recognition of the so-called Israel.

If we recognize the so-called Israel, we will not be safe from its evil. It will come to us. As-Sadat enabled the Israelis to move their forces from the southern front to the northern front. When they destroy the northern front, the Israelis will return to occupy Egypt and will take Nile water, despite the Egyptians, to the Negev and Sinai. The Israelis will reoccupy Sinai when they finish their battle with the northern front. Let the Egyptians understand this. This will unquestionably happen. Today we say this and put this on record. If things continue as they are, the Israelis will return and partition Egypt into two states. Indeed, there is a plan to divide Egypt into three statelets: a Christian state in Alexandria in the north; a Christian Coptic state in upper Egypt with Sawhaj as its capital; and an Islamic state in the center with Cairo as its capital. This scheme is on paper and is supported by military and material resources. Jews are being brought in from various parts of the world to implement this scheme. This scheme, however, will be implemented if the enemy manages to destroy the steadfast Syrian military force. If the enemy manages to destroy the Syrian force, if Syria's steadfastness collapses, and if the northern front collapses mil-

itarily and politically, the Israeli forces will again turn to the southern front — to Egypt, Libya, and Sudan. Let the agents and unaware people understand this.

We will not respond to their childish stands, because they are traitors and agents. We are honest and revolutionaries. Today we declare that we are ready for the unification of Libya, Egypt, and Sudan if they dispose of U.S. and Zionist control and think of the future of the Egyptian and Sudanese peoples and of the Arab nation. We place our resources at the disposal of Egypt and Sudan. If these regimes, however, will continue to conspire against the Libyan people under U.S. instigation, we will urge Syria and Algeria to ally themselves with the Libyan people, as Egypt and Sudan are allied against the Libyan people, are under the U.S. umbrella, and this was officially announced by the United States, Cairo, and Khartoum. These three regimes are allied against the Libyan people. They are also unifying their military resources against the Libyan people.

We urge Syria and Algeria to ally with the Libyan people, not under the U.S. umbrella, as the agents are doing, but under the umbrella of Arab nationalism and unity. If the Arab nation must have two camps, namely, with Egypt and Sudan in the enemy camp, then Algeria, Syria, and Libya must stand in one camp. Now the responsibilities of Syria and Algeria are placed before them. The other Arab regimes are left to define their stand. The Saudi regime, the San'a' regime, and any other Arab regime that is now neutral should determine their stands and choose one camp or the other.

Brothers, if the Egyptian and Sudanese regimes invite the United States to take action against Libya — the United States is a superpower — then Libya can call on its allies and friends not to stand against Egypt and Sudan, as they have done, but against the United States. If the United States does interfere in Arab affairs, then Libya will act toward dragging the superpowers into the struggle in this area, and let it be on me and on my enemies. [applause]

Libya has allies and friends. Libya possesses a very dangerous coast. Let the United States understand that Libya possesses an approximately 2000 km long coast on the Mediterranean. Libya, to vex the United States, can give the necessary facilities to the superpower which is hostile to the United States. We can do this, so that the United States will understand the rules of the game in this region and of the attempts to tip the military balance in the area. We can change the balances 1,000 times and turn the tables upside down. The United States cannot do what Libya can in this area. We now threaten and warn that we might change the strategic balances in Europe, the Mediterranean, north Africa, and the Middle East. We can change them completely if the United States insists on interfering in the Arab conflict. We will involve the superpowers and give facilities to the superpowers. We will give facilities against the United States, whereas Egypt and Sudan are giving the United States facilities against Libya, the Libyan people, and against their Libyan brothers. We will not enable the superpowers to act against Egypt or Sudan, but will enable them to act against another superpower which is hostile to us and which entered the area.

Unless the AWACS leave Egypt and Sudan, the situation will deteriorate. We warn that seeking the help of the U.S. aircraft and force in every internal crisis in the Arab area is playing with fire and an incalculable gamble. This will make those who gamble repent when it is too late.

We specifically warn the rulers of Egypt and Sudan against seeking help from the United States and bringing it into the area. This is because this game will make them and the United States lose. We will consider this matter seriously and involve the superpowers in this area. We will turn worthless the missile bases in southern Europe. If we enable a superpower which is hostile to the United States to use the Libyan coast extending from Tunisia to Egypt for a distance of 2000 km, we will make worthless the Comiso base and NATO bases, and the U.S. bases from Crete to Italy. Does the United States not know that we can take risks and think? We are not agents, but we are revolutionaries and we are honest. We adopt a nonaligned, progressive, and patriotic policy, a policy that is aimed to unify our nation, liberate our land, and occupy our place under the sun, as befits us. We have no aggressive, colonialist, or racist demands. What hampers this goal is the presence of Zionism in the heart of the Arab nation. Thus, we must tackle this problem and destroy it.

As long as the United States continues to defy us in Al-Kufrah, Tobruq, and in the Gulf of Sidra, we, as of today, will seriously think of changing the balances in the area, unless the United States immediately withdraws from Egypt and Sudan and leaves the Arab conflict to the Arabs. We consider all the positive and negative interactions, be they military or peaceful, from the Atlantic Ocean to the Arab Gulf, as internal, local, and civil, interactions to which no condition of international laws applies.

If a war occurs between Libya and Egypt, then international law on war does not apply. It would be a civil war, similar to the war led by Abraham Lincoln between the southern and northern states in America. This was not an international war; it was a liberation and a unifying war in America. Any war within the Arab world is a uniting and liberating war, similar to the war led by Garibaldi for the unification of Italy, and that led by Mao Zedong for the liberation of China. We are following the footsteps of Abraham Lincoln, Garibaldi and Mao Zedong, who united nations.

From these precedents we adopt a base for action within the Arab world. The world will listen and understand, whether it likes it or not, that the movement of Arab unity, the liberation of the Arab land, and the Arab nationalism movement are natural and living phenomena which are vital for this nation and which will not stop until this nation is united and liberated. If the world wants to interfere in this problem, it will become involved in a national war which concerns a torn, humiliated and backward nation that wants to rise, to be united and to be liberated as America was liberated, as Italy was liberated and united and as China was liberated and united. So, we take from these precedents a guide and a base on which we lean. If America considers that Abraham Lincoln's war was a war between countries, then the war within the Arab homeland is a war between different countries. If the war led by Garibaldi to unify Italy is considered a war between foreign countries, then any war within the Arab homeland is definitely between foreign countries. If the

war led by Mao Zedong to unify China is considered a war between foreign countries, then any war within the Arab homeland is a war between foreign countries. But if the wars of Abraham Lincoln, Garibaldi and Mao Zedong — which are three examples in the three great world continents of Asia, Europe, and America — if these wars are considered to be internal civil wars, then any war led by us for the unification of the Arab nation is considered an internal war in which no country, America or any other, has the right to interfere.

So, brothers, the matter therefore becomes clear today, and we have given the enemies several options. If they want to ensure continued confrontation in the region, and if America insists on interfering in internal Arab affairs and on being present in Egypt and Sudan, then we will work toward involving the great powers in this region in a way that threatens the Americans' strategy in Europe, the Mediterranean, north Africa and the Middle East. We believe that we know the strategy, we have a national cause and we have a right. America and its agents must understand that they cannot form an alliance and plan and bring strategic aircraft and the American great power into this region without any response from us. We will ally ourselves even with Satan, to say nothing about the progressive power in the world.

I know that the Libyan people have reached a high political level. Since 1977 the people have been practicing politics in the people's conferences, and practicing authority. When the people hear this explanation they will understand the gravity of the situation of the region due to the entrance of America in this region, due to the America's involvement in this region through Egypt and Sudan. They will understand that America is getting Egypt and Sudan involved in a war against the Libyan people, so that America will benefit.

However, we will practice our right as United Arab Republics. When he goes to Egypt, the Libyan citizen is a citizen within the United Arab Republics, and when the Egyptian citizen comes to Libya he is a citizen within the United Arab Republics. The Presidency Council will convene and review the Constitution of the United Arab Republics, which was formed by the wills of the Egyptian, Syrian and Libyan peoples. We will inform the Security Council, the UN General Assembly, the Arab League, the OAU — as Egypt is a member — the ICO and all significant international organizations. We will officially inform them about the Constitution of the United Arab Republics, and that Egypt is a member of the United Arab Republics, and we will behave according to this basis. Here we confirm that the Stable David agreement is consitutionally void, because the Constitution of the United Arab Republics does not allow any of its countries to sign such a treaty. The Egyptian opposition must rely on this. Egyptian lawyers must rely on this. The Egyptian people and Army must rely on this.

The world must know that the Stable David agreement is constitutionally void. As-Sadat carried out an unconstitutional action. This gives Husni Mubarak a constitutional excuse to escape from the Stable David. We stress that the Egyptian regime is in a big crisis in all respects. It can do nothing but get out of the Stable David and return to the Arab ranks. I tell you that it seems that there is no possibility of saving the Sudanese regime or giving it any facilities, neither by America or by us, because this regime is considered to be finished. The Khartoum regime is dying. The revolution has marched on it from the south. In order for this revolution to discontinue its march on the valley of the Nile, the Egyptian regime must review its calculations, and America must review its calculations before we tip the scales against it. We are shouldering our responsibilities. We are not the first people to ally itself against its enemies when it is seriously threatened, as is happening now on our borders.

We announce to the world that we are not preparing to start a war against Egypt, and we do not accept that Libyans should fight against Egyptians. We do not accept that the Libyan Army should fight the Egyptian Army. This crime was only committed by As-Sadat, and he was sentenced to death, and the sentence was carried out. I said on 1 September 1977 that the one who instigated this crime of fighting between the Libyans and the Egyptians must be executed. As-Sadat was indeed executed. If Husni Mubarak wants to follow As-Sadat's course, then he will be punished as As-Sadat was punished. We cannot possibly attack the Egyptian Army or Egyptian territory. We are counting on the Egyptian Army and the Egyptian people to liberate Egypt. Let the Egyptian soldiers and officers on the borders hear that their brothers on the Libyan borders do not bear any hostility toward them and do not hate them. They love them, and they are their brothers and a support for those who hope to meet them on the same side, and all the rifles would be directed against the joint enemy: Zionism and imperialism. This day will undoubtedly come, and the struggle will continue until liberation and unity result, until the defeat of the American will and the defeat of Zionism are achieved, and until the flag of Arab nationalism and the flag of Arab unity are raised. Forward, brothers; the struggle will continue.

At-Turayki Blasts U.S. 'Aggressive Policy' at UN

LD282157 Kuwait KUNA in English 2010 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] United Nations, March 28 (KUNA) — Libyan Foreign Minister 'Ali 'Abd at-Turayki said Wednesday his country had requested the current Security Council debate to expose the "aggressive policy" of the United States against the small countries of the world.

At-Turayki, in remarks to KUNA following the morning meeting, said he did not expect a resolution to be tabled as "the United States would certainly veto it." "It is time for the United Nations members to unite against this policy of aggression and provocation," he said.

At-Turayki again denied that the Soviet-made TU-22 bomber, that attacked a Sudanese town on March 16, originated from a Libyan base, as the United States and Sudan are claiming. He said the charges were fabricated by the Sudanese Government to justify the dispatch of American AWACS surveillance aircraft to Egypt.

Earlier in the debate, At-Turayki said the United States was pursuing a campaign of aggression against Libya because of Libya's support of the Palestine Liberation Organisation. Libya, he said, was not a threat to Egypt or Sudan, as the Americans want to have the world believe. The population of Libya is 3

million and that of Egypt and Sudan 70 million, At-Turayki said. "How could Libya be a threat to those countries?" he asked.

The Syrian envoy, Diya 'Allah al-Fattal, appealed to the Council to end the policy of force, intimidation and the threat of the use of force pursued by the United States. He said U.S. "imperialist interests" were in basic contradiction to the interests of the Third World. Nonetheless, the Third World, because of its unity, is capable of resisting American aggression and hegemony, he said.

On America's preferential treatment of Israel, the Syrian envoy warned against hopes by the Reagan administration of provoking war among Arab states to divert the Arab nation from the goal of liberating Palestine. "The United States is trying to deepen the division of the Arab nation, and trying to play one Arab country against another," Al-Fattal said. "The only threat in the region is Zionism," he said.

Congo-Lumumba Movement Says It Committed Zaire Blast

LD281808 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] The National Movement of Congo-Lumumba has announced that it is responsible for blowing up the radio station of the hireling Mobutu in Kinshasa yesterday. In a statement circulated today in Brussels it confirmed that the operation is a warning to the ruling dictator in Zaire and his regime. The statement said that the movement has decided to step up its armed struggle until the overthrow of the agent Mobutu.

Romanian Vice President Manescu Concludes Visit

LD290955 Tripoli JANA in English 0828 GMT 29 Mar 84

[Text] Tripoli, Jumada Thani 25, Mar 29, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Vice President of the State Council and member of Communist Party Executive Committee of Romania, Manea Manescu, yesterday left Tripoli at the end of a visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, which took him several days.

MOROCCO

Islamic Ambassadors See Shultz Over Jerusalem Embassy

LD282205 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Excerpt] In Washington the ambassadors of Morocco, Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Bangladesh, Pakistan and Senegal paid a visit to U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz within the scope of their campaign to arouse the sentiments of the U.S. people regarding the issue of moving the U.S. Embassy to Jerusalem, which is now under discussion in Congress. The Islamic delegation will convey this message to members of the Congress and prominent U.S. officials. The Islamic countries' ambassadors stressed that the dimension of the issue of moving the embassy is not confined to the Arab-Israeli conflict. They say that in the event the U.S. Embassy were moved to Jerusalem, concern would be provoked in all the Islamic countries and this would be considered as an unfriendly act on the part of the United States. The ambassadors say that this act could be a violation of the UN resolution which called on all countries to leave their embassies in Tel Aviv until the issue is completely resolved.

Arab League Informed About Hassan-Reagan Exchange

LD282202 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] Mohamed Tazi, Moroccan permanent representative at the Arab League, has informed Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi of the letters exchanged between His Majesty King Hassan II and U.S. President Ronald Reagan regarding the issue of holy Jerusalem. The Arab League secretary general expressed his great appreciation of the efforts that his majesty the king has been making in the interest of Arab and Islamic issues, pointing out that these efforts are greatly appreciated in the Arab arena.

Mohamed Tazi pointed out that he reviewed the main points on the agenda of the 81st session of the League's Council, and the meetings to be held by the ministerial council assigned by the 12th Arab summit conference to revise the amendment plan to the League's Charter.

Communique Orders National Mourning for Sekou Toure

LD281318 Rabat MAP in English 1200 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] Rabat, Mar 28 (MAP) — Following the cruel death of president of Guinea, Ahmed Sekou Toure, and in accordance with royal directives, a three day national mourning will be observed in Morocco beginning this Wednesday, flags will be at half mast for seven days, and the absent's prayers (Salah al-Ghaib) will be said in all the mosques of the Kingdom on Friday 30 March, announced a communique of the prime minister.

"The sudden and cruel disappearance of President of Guinea Ahmed Sekou Toure has dumbfounded not only the brotherly Guinean people but also the whole Moroccan people as well as the entire Islamic community and the African Continent," read out the communique.

"The great deceased was one of the most outstanding personalities in contemporary history by his sustained struggle and indefectible devotion to just causes and one of the greatest upholders of independence and liberty in Africa," stated the communique, adding, "The deceased president has dedicated his life to the prosperity of the Guinean people, the sacred causes of Islam, and the unity of Africa."

SUDAN

Foreign Minister Addresses UN Security Council

JN281305 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1035 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] United Nations, 28 Mar (SUNA) — Foreign Minister Muhammad Mirghani Mubarak addressed the UN Security Council last night on the Libyan aggression against Sudan. He

said that a Soviet-made bomber raided Omdurman at 1130 on 16 March. He said that as a result of this raid, five persons were killed and others wounded.

Muhammad Mirghani Mubarak accused Libya of perpetrating the raid, saying that the bomber had taken off from [words indistinct] then returned there. He stressed that Libya possesses seven Soviet-made Tupolev-22 bombers, and that these bombers can jam radars and fly at medium-range without the need to refuel. He added that Libya is the only African country that possesses these bombers.

The foreign minister said that the aggression was carried out against the densely populated city of Omdurman, and that this aggression is a part of a series of aggressive actions against the country.

Muhammad Mirghani Mubarak pointed out that in statements he made on 2 March, the Libyan leader reaffirmed that he is determined to liberate Sudan, as he put it. The minister also enumerated the Libyan aggressions against Sudan, pointing out that Libya seeks to create an agent regime to be used as a tool in its hands. The foreign minister added that the raid on Omdurman is a flagrant violation of the UN Charter and the charters of the regional organizations.

The foreign minister said that there will be no problem between Libya and Sudan if Libya relinquishes its insistence on interfering in Sudan's domestic affairs. He added: Libya wants to impose its hegemony on Sudan and prevent it from adopting an independent policy. He said that Sudan is a peace-loving country that has no intention of imposing hegemony on others.

The foreign minister said that the Libyan raid against the country is not a mere conflict between two states, but a serious and brutal aggression that threatens the region's security and peace. He added that the UN Security Council must denounce the 16 March Libyan aggression against Omdurman and call on Libya to stop such aggressions and respect Sudan's sovereignty on its territories.

Libyan Pilots in Omdurman Raid Reportedly Promoted

JN281509 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1430 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] Rome, 28 Mar (SUNA) — Sources close to the Libyan Air Force have announced that the president of the Libyan regime, Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, 2 days ago received the Libyan pilots who commanded the Soviet-built Libyan TU-22 bomber on its criminal mission which raided civilian targets and residential areas in the city of Omdurman on the morning of 16 March 1984.

These sources told SUNA that the president of the Libyan regime had thanked the pilots for what he called their success in their criminal mission of bombing the city of Omdurman deep inside Sudanese territory. The Libyan president informed the pilots of his orders to promote the first, Lieutenant Colonel Salim Ahmad 'Abdallah, to the rank of colonel; and the second pilot, Major Murad Nasr ad-Din al-Karamani, to the rank of lieutenant colonel.

Numayri Extends Condolences on Death of Toure

JN281505 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1430 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] Khartoum, 28 Mar (SUNA) — President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri extended his condolences to Dr Lansana Beavogui, interim president of the People's Revolutionary Republic of Guinea, on the death of the late President Ahmed Sekou Toure, who passed away in the United States yesterday.

In his cable of condolence, Numayri described the late Sekou Toure as one of the greatest African leaders who effectively contributed to creating the OAU. He also noted Sekou Toure's effective role in the ICO and the Nonaligned Movement.

Concluding his cable, Numayri affirmed that Sekou Toure's death is not only a loss for Guinea, but also a loss for the entire African Continent, peoples, and organizations.

Central Leadership Ends Meetings, Issues Resolutions

JN281205 Khartoum SUNA in English 1030 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] Khartoum March 28 (SUNA) — The SSU central leadership last night wound up its 3rd meeting and issued its final resolutions.

With respect to the internal front the leadership urged the SSU bodies to consolidate their ranks. It further called for delegation [of] more power to the masses and for just distribution of wealth. It also called for creating new measures to enable the political organization to penetrate the ranks of professionals.

It urged opposing elements abroad and those who resorted to arms to lay them down and repatriate in order to enter into a constructive dialogue for the sake of building their country.

As regards the (causes?) of the people the resolutions appreciated the president's call for a comprehensive revision of the policies of salaries and employment regulations in view of available economic capabilities.

The resolutions advocated the adoption of dialogue and the making of data and facts available. They also called for refraining from partial solutions and not to succumb to pressures and narrow interests. They also called [on] public bodies not to undermine the declared policy of salaries and employment. The meeting also urged for controlling inflation and for the establishment of bodies to be concerned with devising policies of salaries production and prices. It further directed the Executive Bureau to show concern for the questions for food production, popular housing, and transportation.

The resolutions further adopted the president's initiative for the creation of a national fund to finance a strategic surplus of sorghum in order to overcome the effects of droughts in northern Darfur and Kordofan.

On foreign policy the leadership reaffirmed that Sudan would always be an advocate of peace. Sudan would ever solve differences through peaceful means and would ever reject interferences in their affairs and the violation of their sovereignty. Sudan

would ever respects the rights of neighborliness.

The leadership further denounced Libyan interference in Sudan's affairs by instigating mutiny in its southern parts and by launching a raid on Omdurman. This reaffirmed Sudan's determination to defend its sovereignty.

The leadership also reaffirmed Sudan's supporting attitude towards the struggle of the Palestinians, the Lebanese people, and Africans in southern Africa and Namibia.

It also reaffirmed the president's keenness to safeguard Sudan's good neighborliness with Ethiopia and its interest in solving differences through peaceful means without endangering Sudan's security and unity.

Commenting on the resolutions President Numayri said he would call the Executive Bureau to meet to study some proposals concerning the questions of public transport, housing and social securities which are now under preparation.

He indicated that the revolution would be tolerant and would not respond to provocation. The revolution's concern would be the establishment of a modern society that makes life comfortable and the combat shortcoming resulting for the economic growth in the addition to enriching the values of [word indistinct] and work, he said. [sentence as received]

Our response to conspiracies will be more participation in governing responsibilities and extra strengthening of institutions, he ended.

TUNISIA

SDF Party Seeking To Form Opposition Front

LD281353 Kuwait KUNA in English 1235 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] Tunis, March 28 (KUNA) — The Tunisian opposition Socialist Democratic Party (SDF) is seeking to form an opposition front comprising the licenced and unlicenced parties to coordinate their stands in confronting the ruling Socialist Constitutional Party, a responsible source in the SDF said Wednesday.

The source added that delegations from the Tunisian Communist Party and the unlicenced Islamic [Tendency] trend Movement held separate talks last Friday and Monday with a number of the SDF leaders.

President Habib Bourguiba issued, after consulting with his Premier Mohamed Mzali last November, two decisions authorising the Socialist Democratic Front and the Popular Unity Movement to engage in political work publicly, thus raising the number of opposition parties to three.

The Tunisian Communist Party, however, was the first opposition party allowed by the Tunisian president to engage in political life for the past several years.

ETHIOPIA

DPRK Deputy Foreign Minister Arrives 28 March

EA282311 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 0900 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] A four-member DPRK delegation led by Comrade Kim Yong-sop, deputy foreign minister of the DPRK, arrived in Addis Ababa this morning for a working visit to Socialist Ethiopia. The delegation's visit is aimed at holding talks on strengthening the existing relations and cooperation between the two countries.

In a statement on arrival in Addis Ababa, Comrade Kim Yong-sop pointed out that the relations of the two countries based on the mutual benefit of their peoples was currently being further strengthened. He added that his current visit would further develop this relationship and further develop joint projects and cooperation.

He pointed out that the visit would enable the delegation to examine the results achieved by Socialist Ethiopia in the efforts to build a new system and further understand the struggle to establish a workers party and build an independent national economy. He then expressed the support and solidarity of the people of the DPRK for the struggles carried on by the Ethiopian peoples and the victories achieved in the past years of struggle.

On arrival in Addis Ababa, Comrade Kim Yong-sop was welcomed at Bole International Airport by Comrades Goshu Wolde, minister of foreign affairs and COPWE Central Committee member, and Comrade Hwang Sun-muk, DPRK ambassador to Socialist Ethiopia.

Meets With Goshu Wolde

EA282312 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic

0900 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Summary] Foreign Minister Goshu Wolde and the DPRK deputy foreign minister, Kim Yong-sop this afternoon held talks on bilateral relations and international issues. They agreed that relations between Ethiopia and the DPRK had shown progress in political, economic, and social fields after Chairman Mengistu's visit to the DPRK.

KENYA

DAILY NATION: 57 Killed by Troops in Wajir

EA282314 Nairobi DAILY NATION in English 28 Mar 84 p 1

[Text] Government security forces killed 57 people in Wajir District in an operation last month to quell tribal feuds and take possession of illegally acquired arms, Mr Justus Ole Tipis told the House yesterday.

Mr Tipis, a minister in the office of the president was making a ministerial statement in reply to claims by the MP for Wajir West, Mr Ahmed Mohamed Khalif, that the forces killed 300 people including 20 civil servants and that 600 were missing. He had also said the North-Eastern PC, Mr Benson Kaaria, had promised in 1980 to wipe out the entire Somali population in the province.

Mr Tipis told the attentive House that the government had evidence that some MP's in North-Eastern Province, particularly during last parliament, perpetrated clanism for selfish ends. During the elections, the Ajuran clan was driven out of a constituency to pave way for the success of a Degodia candidate.

It is evident leaders encourage and equip bandits to attack other clans for political reasons, he said.

He said throughout last year, reconciliatory meetings between the feuding clans Ogaden (population 17,708), Gurreh (21,157), Arujan (17,173) and Degodia (68,550) were fruitless and they intensified attacks last November.

Barazas [open air meetings] by administrative officials and the minister in the office of the president, Mr Hussein Mohamed, appealed to the feuding clans to stop the attacks and surrender the illegally acquired arms and a 10-day deadline was given and extended for a further 10 days. Only the Ajurans responded, the minister said.

Between late January and February 9 this year, several Ajuran Manyattas were attacked. A gang of 10 Degodia bandits killed six people near Griftu. Attacks were directed at the Ajuran who were defenseless after surrendering their arms, he added.

The minister said the government intervened to restore peace and order and recovered several firearms from suspects. Mr Speaker, the government does not condone the excessive force which might have been meted out during the operation. However, during exercise of questioning, resistance and violence on the part of the suspects were encountered and in the course of the encounter, 57 people were killed. The honourable members will note that the number of deaths is far less than the number alleged, he pointed out.

Mr Tipis said the negative attitude and loss of lives which necessitated the mounting of the operation made it necessary for the government to appoint a committee to investigage the root cause of the constant flare-ups in the area.

The minister said the government's commitment to law and order was firm. It will therefore not help anybody to challenge that commitment for disruptive ends.

Report Called Inaccurate

EA282316 Nairobi KNA in English 1500 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] Nairobi March 28 (KNA) — A minister of state in the office of the president Mr Justus Ole Tipis has cautioned members of the press to report accurately especially when reporting on matters of national security. Mr Tipis was referring to a front page story in today's *DAILY NATION* entitled "57 Killed by Troops in Wajir."

Speaking in Parliament today, the minister said the story was reported incorrectly despite the fact that he had made 5 photostat copies of his ministerial statement, and distributed it to all reporters including KENYA NEWS AGENCY (KNA). Reading from the Hansard report, Mr Tipis said the article was far from the truth. He said this was gross misreporting, adding that it was not the first time this particular newspaper had confused the nation with their inaccurate reports.

The minister denied that the 57 people who were killed in the recent clash at Wajir were not killed by government forces but they met their fate during that period of confusion when the armed forces operation was met with some resistance from some suspects. [sentence as received]

Noting that the matter in question was of national security and was sensitive, Mr Tipis cautioned the press to report fairly and without fear. The deputy speaker, Mr Ngeny, ruled that the press should report accurately, noting that this was not the first time members of parliament had complained of misreporting.

TANZANIA

Government Pledges 'All-Round Support' for ANC

EA282300 Nairobi KNA in English 1305 GMT 28 Mar 84

["Pool" item]

[Text] Dar es Salaam, March 28 PANA — Tanzania has pledged "all-round support" for the African National Congress (ANC) of South Africa in its struggle to topple the apartheid regime in South Africa. This was disclosed yesterday by the president of the ANC, Oliver Tambo, when he spoke to newsmen on the latest development in southern Africa.

Tambo, who on Monday held two hours of talks with President Nyerere, told pressmen that mwalimu had assured the ANC of his full support.

On the talks he had with Mwalimu Nyerere, Tambo who was accompanied to the talks with ANC's Secretary-General Alfred Nzo, said they briefed him on their "thinking" on the issues in southern Africa. He said that during the talks they agreed that Africa embark on the total struggle to liberate the whole continent and that the struggle must continue.

Tambo has also been to Maputo, Luanda and Algiers.

22 CCM Party Branch Secretaries Dismissed

EA282302 Dar es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 1700 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] Twenty-two party branch secretaries in Shinyanga, Kigoma and Lindi regions have been fired for various disciplinary reasons and for embezzlement of money belonging to the Chama Cha Mapinduzi [CCM].

A statement issued today by the office of the party secretary-general stated that the decision was reached after the political committees of the relevant regions recommended the dismissal of the 22 people. The statement said that the party headquarters accepted all the recommendations made by the regional political committees that those concerned be fired immediately.

The offences committed by the people include the rigging of elections for party branch chairmen; embezzlement of party membership fees; refusal of transfers; disagreements; absenteeism; drunkenness at work and other criminal offences. The statement said the party will not hesitate to take severe disciplinary measures against employees and leaders who violate working procedures.

UGANDA

Obote Addresses Opening of Parliament

EA282315 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Excerpts] President Obote has urged MP's to exercise their democratic rights with responsibility so as to ensure a united, peaceful and prosperous nation. In the communication from the chair at the opening of the fourth Parliament, Dr Obote reminded MP's that it is their responsibility to acquit themselves of any charge that they are against the people's aspirations for a nation of peace and prosperity. He urged them to show their unmistakable conviction to parliamentary rule and to translate that conviction into reality by getting the message across to the electorate through their performance in the house and other activities outside the house.

The president called for an ever stronger belief by MP's and the electorate in government by the ballot, thereby denying a constituency to anyone opposed to the ballot. In this respect Dr Obote further urged MP's and the country at large to recognize the fact that men of violence have no respect for life or property, and that they have to be fought together by all who believe in parliamentary rule and the sanctity of life.

Turning to the economic position of the country, Dr Obote assured the house that the government will continue to tackle the task of rehabilitating the economy by implementing the recovery program with responsibility.

Dr Obote expressed thanks to international donors for the moral, material and capital aid extended so far for the resuscitation of the economy. But the president reiterated that external assistance, much as it is welcome, can never be enough for the country's requirement, and it is therefore not a substitute for mobilization of local resources for the country's needs.

The president reviewed the steps taken by the government to rectify the economy since coming to office in 1980. He reported that the government has been extremely successful in mobilizing resources, hence the expansion of the recovery program to include new projects and to extend the program period to 1985.

Dr Obote told the House that the revised recovery program is identical to the original one in terms of policies, strategies and priorities. He said the government will continue to seek much of the funds required from external resources for the implementation of the projects. The revised recovery program, he added, is aimed at the rehabilitation of the existing productive capacities within various sectors, notably agriculture, including animal husbandry, the manufacturing industry, tourism, transport, communications and social infrastructure.

Dr Obote reported to the House that the revised recovery program was presented to Uganda's major donors at a meeting in Paris early this year and was favorably received.

The president further reported that progress had continued in the economic field, and that programs and projects passed by parliament are now succeeding in giving Ugandans a better standard of living, security and access to social services.

Dr Obote reported that inflation rates dropped further to 30 percent at the end of 1983, compared with 44.9 percent in 1982. The country's inflation rate in 1981 was 92.8 percent and 107.2 percent in 1980.

The president also told the House that the GDP grew on an average by 5 percent per annum between 1981 and 1982. This growth rate was sustained during 1983. He further reported that government revenue increased more than 19 fold over the past 2 years from 0.8 percent to 6.3 percent of GDP.

The president noted that these are important indicators that the decline of the seventies has not only been arrested but also that the trend has been completely reversed and Uganda is climbing towards recovery.

On the expropriated properties, the president reported that the verification and negotiating committees are now working, and that a number of certificates have been issued under the provisions of the expropriated properties act. The president informed the house that in view of the large number of the properties expropriated, the government had decided to process applications on the basis of priorities set out in the revised recovery program. Hence applications are being processed in the following order:

1. agricultural estates and enterprises and industrial units.
2. commercial buildings and businesses.
3. institutional buildings.
4. residential buildings.

The president expressed disappointment that despite the long period since the bill was enacted only a few applicants interested in these properties other than former owners have lodged claims of interest in such properties. The act, the president clarified, provides that any person or institution which wants to acquire a particular property, or who has been occupying such a property, or who has invested money and improved such property is equally entitled to lodge a claim of interest in any such property. Dr Obote urged MP's to study the act carefully and explain its provisions to their constituents.

On the East African Community, Dr Obote was happy to report to the house that the former partner states had now agreed on a formula for the division of assets and liabilities of the former East African Community. The president told parliament that despite the collapse of the community, it is the intention of the three states that new forms of cooperation should be found. He promised that Uganda will play a very active role in the pursuit of that goal. Dr Obote expressed confidence that now that the verfication and negotiating committees are working, and that matters of the East African Community assets and liabilities have been resolved, it would be easier to mobilize external resources for the rehabilitation of enterprises and institutions hitherto affected by doubts of ownership.

On the security situation, the president reported that apart from incidents in Luwero and cattle-rustling in north-east, the entire country had returned to normality. He informed parliament that government is about to launch a program to contain violence and cattle-rustling in the north-east.

The president expressed gratitude to the Commonwealth training team, and to the countries which provided it for the commendable job done which is now ending after 2 years.

Dr Obote announced that a number of bills will be presented to the House during this session. The majority of them will be on strengthening the country's efforts in the recovery process.

GHANA

Protest Notes to U.S., Togo, Ivory Coast Embassies

AB291136 Accra Domestic Service in English
0600 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] Workers and People's Defense Committees [WDC, PDC] in the Greater Accra region yesterday declared their confidence in the Provisional National Defense Council [PNDC] government. They also expressed their conviction that the national democratic revolution it has embarked upon is to seek and promote the interests of Ghanaians despite the frantic efforts being made by the neocolonialist and imperialist stooges, both at home and abroad, to cause unrest and chaos in the country.

[Words indistinct] they held a rally at the Kwame Nkrumah Circle in Accra in support of the PNDC in the face of neocolonialist and imperialist maneuvers to topple it. They condemned attempts being made by some disgruntled elements who are bent on destabilizing the PNDC and [words indistinct]. The workers declared their full and unflinching support for the ongoing revolution under the leadership of Comrade Rawlings.

WDC's and PDC's called for a speedy (?investigation) of the 23d March incidents and said that those found to be involved should be brought to book as early as possible and made to face the firing squad. They called on all workers to unite solidly behind the revolution and its leadership.

They later marched to the industrial premises of International Tobacco Ghana Limited and presented a protest note against the managing director for his alleged collusion with the dissident forces. From there they marched to the American Embassy where they presented another protest note. Similar notes were presented to the Togolese and Ivorian Embassies [words indistinct] for the role they played in the recent attack on Ghana.

Rawlings Sends Condolences on Sekou Toure's Death

AB281800 Accra Domestic Service in English
1300 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] The Provisional National Defense Council [PNDC] has ordered 3 days of official mourning on the death of President Sekou Toure of Guinea. During the period, which starts today, all flags will fly at half mast.

In a message of condolence and sympathy to the Prime Minister of Guinea, the Chairman of the PNDC, Flight Lieutenant Jerry John Rawlings, said the government and people of Ghana have learned of his untimely death with the deepest regret and profound shock. It said the late President Sekou Toure's life was one of selfless devotion to his country, especially, since 1958, when under his leadership, Guinea cast a no-vote in a referendum organized in all French dependencies in Africa, to usher his country to independence. The contributions of President Sekou Toure to solving the problems of racism, imperialism, decolonization, apartheid and indeed the ideals of African unity are truly immense and they will forever be remembered by posterity.

The message said Ghanaians will for a long time have vivid memories of the late president. They recall the very close and intimate association which he established with the founder of their nation, Dr Kwame Nkrumah, and how the two, with others, fought for the formation of the OAU. It said Ghanaians also recall his role in the establishment of the Ghana-Guinea-Mali union and the brotherly hospitality extended to the late Dr Kwame Nkrumah in exile.

1984 Budget Statement Presented 27 March

AB281210 Accra Domestic Service in English
1931 GMT 27 Mar 84

[1984 budget statement presented by Dr Kwesi Botchway, secretary for finance and economic planning, at State House in Accra on 27 March — recorded]

[Excerpts] At long last, what I hear some of our people—with typical Ghanaian humor—have been calling "I don't want to be born budget" is about to be born. On behalf of the Provisional National Defense Council [PNDC], I am happy to present today the budget statement and economic policy for 1984. I would like to start by briefly discussing the international context or the international developments within which we have to view the budget for the year.

The year 1983 was yet another difficult year for the world economy as a whole, and particularly for the economies of the leading industrialized countries of the West with which our economy is most closely linked through trade, investment, and finance. Now, in spite of the very modest signs of improvement in a few of these countries, the general trend in 1983 was one of continuing stagnation and decline in output, high levels of unemployment, and inflation. In fact, in recent times in these countries, unemployment has risen to the highest level, estimated at well over 15 million people in more than four decades [as heard], and urban crime has reached alarming proportions in most capitals of the West. The EEC is engulfed in a deep financial crisis which is threatening the very existence of the community. The fund for the stabilization of export earnings, otherwise called Stabex, which was established under the EEC-ACP or Lome Convention to offer some relief to the countries of Africa, the Caribbeans, and the Pacific, which suffer a decline in the prices of their major commodity exports, has been short of its target for 3 successive years. A number of international organizations face severe liquidity problems. The International Development Association, IDA, which lends money to poor countries on long term, concessional terms is $3 billion short of its funding requirement.

In the socialist group of countries where prices are usually stable over long periods, a number of countries, including Poland and Hungary, have had to raise prices of a wide range of consumer goods. The stagnation and decline in the developed countries have had grave implications for so-called less developed countries, such as ours, which depend on the export of primary commodities for which the industrialized countries are the major market. Apart from crude oil, whose pricing is determined by the regulation of supplies from a cartel or organization of major oil producers, the prices of primary commodities — such as cocoa, coffee, and so on — have tended to fall in response to the

developments in the indsutrialized countries, while at the same time the prices of what we import from these countries have tended to rise again in response to these developments. For example, the 150,000 metric tons of cocoa which we expect to export in 1984 would have fetched us $441.6 million in 1977, but this year it will fetch us only 205.8 million pounds. That is less than half its value at 1977 prices.

Among the so-called less developed countries, Africa has been the hardest hit by these developments in the world economy. In fact, Africa as a region has suffered a low rate of economic growth for virtually the whole of the past decade. In 1983, it is estimated that the African economy as a whole expanded by no more than 0.2 percent. In the area of agriculture, the severe drought conditions reduced cereal production in Africa by about 3 percent and caused bushfires which destroyed thousands of hectares of cocoa and coffee plantations in Ghana, Ivory Coast, and Togo. With the Sahara Desert also advancing rapidly southward by about 125 miles in 1 year, the Sahelian countries face an even graver crisis. In fact, at this rate the otherwise normally well-watered area around the Gulf of Guinea may very well be turned to a desert in a few years.

As the chairman of the PNDC pointed out in his March 6th nationwide broadcast, about 150 million people in Africa will this year suffer severe malnutrition or even death from starvation unless substantial donations of food from the international community are provided. Reduced commodity export earnings and levels of official development assistance—popularly called foreign aid—the contraction of international bank lendings to Africa and high interest rates on external debts have combined to produce a sharp drop in foreign exchange earnings with disastrous consequences for production, particularly in the manufacturing sector which is entirely dependent on import of raw materials, spare parts, and other inputs.

This short review of the world economic situation in the year 1983 is, as always, not intended to say that our national situation is comfortable. It is meant to provide the external context within which to assess our performance in the pursuit of the economic policy objectives announced in the 1983 recovery program. The basic principles and outlines of the government economic policy were stated in the program for reconstruction and development announced in December 1982. That program, which was set within a 4-year time frame, stated the agenda for 1983 to include the restructuring of the basic institutions of the economy and the establishment of a sound national economic framework which will improve and rationalize the incentive system and thereby create the minimum material conditions for the implementation of the national program of social and political transformation.

The December program was also predicated on the principle that the restructuring of institutions has to go hand in hand with sound financial management. To this end, the 1983 budget, which was announced in April, sought to implement the financial and monetary policy measures for implementing the '83 objectives of the December program. [as heard] The main feature of the '83 budget was the overhaul of policy in the area of incomes and pricing including the pricing of (?manufactured) goods to provide incentives for production. Through the introduction of the system of bonuses and surcharges, the over-valuation of the cedis—which had resulted in the diversion of vital resources away from production and the conferment of large and untaxable windfalls on those who had access to foreign exchange at the official rate—was corrected. On the basis of the policy measures introduced in the budget, Ghana as a member of the International Monetary Fund made a request to the fund in conformity with the actual (?provisions) facility on account of the fund to purchase $126.75 million under the [words indistinct] facility on account of a shortfall in export earnings during calendar year 1982 and an additional drawing of about $262 million under a 1-year standby facility. The executive board of the fund on 3 August 1983 unanimously approved both requests.

Some of our people are so angry [words indistinct] that they have begun to circulate irresponsible rumors and gossips to the effect that in spite of all the statements we made that the International Monetary Fund has given us money, in fact no money has come from the fund. It is all right to criticize government policy but I think that it is irresponsible in the face of facts that can be easily obtained from the Central Bank instead of spreading gossips and rumors that do not stand up to (?facts). The Bank of Ghana, I am sure, would be quite happy to provide details of the dates and so on on which monies were drawn [words indistinct] for those people who still consider that we have not (?received anything) from the International Monetary Fund.

Now, in support of our recovery program also, the World Bank approved a special credit of $40 million on 28 June 1983 for the importation of urgently needed inputs for agriculture and transport. In addition, the bank's executive board also approved a further credit of $93 million for the rehabilitation of the export sector.

Further support for the program came from the African Development Bank based in Abidjan which provided $30 million also for the transport and export sectors and the Arab Bank for Development in Africa, ABDA, which is (?now) considering a further line of credit in support of approved projects.

I will now turn to recent trends in production in our country. Our economic recovery in 1983 was slower than expected. The adverse impact of the drought—which also hit other countries in the normally well-watered Gulf of Guinea, the area around our part of Africa—was much much worse than projected. This resulted in a sharp drop in the expected output of food and export crops including cocoa. It is estimated that agricultural output dropped by at least 5 percent against 1982.

The 1984 budget represents a continuation of the cautious fiscal policy pursued in 1983. The projected increase in imports, the continued adjustments of (?relative) prices and the increased level of economic activities will work to restore further the level of the (?economy) and encourage the prospect of fiscal adjustments. As a consequence, total revenue and grants in the 1984 budget are projected at 22.6 billion compared to 10.2 billion in 1983. The projected 1984 level reflects revenue trends during the second half of 1983 in the period covered by the program. Of the total revenue of 10.2 billion in 1983, 7.5 billion was collected during the second half of 1983, an annual rate of about 15 billion, which was continuing to accelerate.

A 30 percent rise in nonoil imports is projected for 1984 along with a further increase in the landed value and this will result in the rise of revenue from custom duties to an estimated 4.7 billion. The increase in exports is also expected to stimulate domestic production and lead to higher revenue yields from taxes on domestic goods and services. Increased domestic activity is also expected to result in the rise in revenue from income and property taxes from 1.8 billion to 2.5 billion in 1984.

Furthermore, despite the fall in the size of the crop, the higher or relatively higher world prices for cocoa coupled with a more depreciated exchange rate would allow the Cocoa Marketing Board [CMB] to contribute 3.5 billion in tax revenue in 1984 compared with 2.8 billion in 1983. Total expenditure and net lending in 1984 is estimated at 28.5 billion compared with 16.2 billion in 1983. Current expenditure is estimated at 19.6 billion, which will also allow cummulatively about 6 percent increase in civil service wages and salaries which is necessary to mitigate the further loss of morale and incentives following the more than 100 percent increase in flation in 1983.

Capital expenditure for 1984 is estimated at 5.9 billion out of which 4.5 billion is earmarked for development expenditure and mobilization as well as the redeployment exercise. The balance of 1.4 billion covers government commitments in respect of investments, loans and advances to public corporations, joint ventures and individuals. Total expenditure and net lending in 1984 amounts to 23.5 billion as against a total current (?figure) of 17.6 billion, resulting therefore in a deficit of about 5.9 billion for the 1984 budget. This level of deficit, though higher in nominal terms than the deficit for 1983, represents an improvement in real terms viewed as a percentage of the gross domestic product. The remainder of the deficit is financed from domestic [words indistinct] sources and otherwise from foreign sources.

Now total nondebt recurrent expenditure for 1984 estimated at 16.5 billion represents an increase of 6.4 billion or 63 percent over 1983. Now the total allocation made for personal emoluments in the 1984 budget is estimated at 5.4 billion which represents 64.4 percent increase over the 1983 estimate of just over 3.3 billion. [all figures as heard]

Now the substantial increase in nondebt recurrent expenditure reflects [words indistinct] running the government machinery as well as the full impact of the wage adjustment of 25 cedis to a cumulative 40 cedis. Now the increase in the wage adjustment when topped up by a tax remission of about 20 percent will relieve [words indistinct].

Now, one of the biggest problems in the area of expenditure and the reason why sufficient resources have not been made available for development and for other acts of expenditure has been the cost of institutional feeding. The cost of feeding students in our educational institutions continues to rise annually. For 1984, certain provisions are expected to be made in the recurrent budget to cover the cost of feeding in teacher training colleges, diploma-awarding institutions, handicapped institutions and training for the handicapped, secondary schools and universities. For training colleges, as against a total [word indistinct] 29.1 million cedis needed last year, this year we are estimating expenditure in the range of 48.78 million. For diploma-awarding institutions, 3.28 million; for handicapped institutions, 9.1 million; for secondary schools, 231.37 million; and for the universities 651.2 million as against 240 million last year.

And now I come to a very major area of the budget policy, namely the prices and incomes policy. The price of beer has gone up to 500 cedis a bottle. [shouts] The generally unsatisfactory performance of the economy in recent years is a reflection of, and in turn reflects an unacceptably low and declining level of production in this country. This is true whether we examine it from the point of view of capital and output, yield per acre of land of value or labor productivity that means output per man. The consequences of this state of affairs are that we are consuming our national capital stock since net investment is negative while average real labor remuneration for productive work is also low. There is no doubt some room for improvement in the collection of taxes and even room for more taxes. It is an obvious truth that there is considerable waste of real resources in our system: for example, food harvest losses in the area of agriculture are estimated at at least 25 percent. These are sheer problems which cannot be easily dimissed and about which something has to be done and quickly.

Average productivity can also be raised by redeploying resources into more productive, low import incentive areas including agriculture. In the short run however, there is very little room for maneuvers. We can redeploy at least 20 percent of the work force in the public sector but it cannot be done tomorrow morning. The gross domestic product which is a summary measure of the tempo of economic activity shows that production has been declining in this country for several years. The last 2 years have also been affected—as already indicated—by adverse climatic conditions which have negated our efforts [words indistinct]. At the same time that we are faced with the shrinking of real resources from our capital investments, the growth of the population—together with the unexpected return of Ghanaians from Nigeria—has made a large increase in demand for our resources. A rundown of basic infrastructure particularly roads, bridges, [words indistinct] also call for an increase investment to support production and (?inflation) which cannot be postponed for too long.

In these circumstances, there are very limited possibilities to borrow in the required amount to guarantee a decent living to the mass of the population in the present world environment. In all of Africa, there persists today explosive conditions such as drought which has considerably reduced agricultural output. Last year, as the chairman [of the Provisional National Defense Council] pointed out in his 6 March speech, a UN team visited Ghana and assessed our shortfall in 1983 to be at least 190,000 metric tons of cereals, mainly maize and rice. And recently the secretary general of the United Nations has toured some areas in our region to see things for himself.

Now given the generally unfavorable international environment and low output per head in Ghana and at the same time legitimate concern of the mass of the working people for improvement in their living conditions, there is a need for a compromise which is intended to offer some relief without jeopardizing our long-term political objectives. If you go to any of our offices in the public service today, you would no doubt not fail to note that

there are many many people employed on the payroll who do nothing or little even when there is work to be done. And yet the more people we have on the payroll who have no work to do, the less money there is to pay people who do honest work.

The need to quickly rehabilitate the production and social [words indistinct] since we cannot probably consume everything we produce and, in general, the need to get production and development going would suggest that the proposed increase in the minimum rationalization wage will be costly. It entails an increase in expenditure of 5.2 billion cedis. That is what the budget has to bear to raise the minimum rationalization wage to at least 40 cedis a day—5.2 billion cedis. In the light of these considerations, it is proposed that the nominal basic pay should be increased by (?50) percent. This will imply, as I have indicated, a minimum crude daily wage of 40 cedis. However, it is further proposed that a special tax relief be granted particularly to low income earners to make this figure a net instead of a gross figure. The erosion in the living wage of the mass of our people has occurred over at least the last decade. It has taken a decade to erode wages and incomes to the level at which they have been eroded today. And if you measure the erosion over a decade, then the measure of the loss in purchasing power is estimated to be about 245 cedis a day. In other words, if we try to restore the conditions over a decade, that is what the minimum wage will have to be. But it is important to recognize that it is neither possible nor proper to restore in 1 year, particularly in a difficult year such as 1984, the erosion in income that has taken place over a decade.

Therefore, at the last meeting of the tripartite made up of the government, employers, and the Trades Union Congress, an agreement was reached that the government should find some way of restoring the erosion in the minimum wage to the level that it was as at April 1983. And a sub-technical committee was formed to ascertain the level of this erosion; and the sub-technical committee calculated the erosion to be about 59.17 percent over the years and therefore the recommendation that is being made is that, however difficult it may be and whatever cost it means to the budget, resources must be found [words indistinct] so that the lowest-paid worker in the civil service will now get 1,080 cedis a month instead of the present around 577 cedis a month.

Now, the proposed increase in the minimum wage, which as I said, does not purport to and cannot, in the circumstances, restore the erosion over the last 10 years, is without prejudice to the collective bargaining process. In other words, workers in all establishments are permitted to continue their collective bargaining. If they fall through for any reason this year, then they will be renegotiated. The increase on the wage is not meant to prejudice the normal processes of collective bargaining and additonally, appropriate guidelines for the implementation of this new minimum rationalization wage, will be published by the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning in consultation with [words indistinct].

The national mobilization program was initiated in 1983 as a very fundamental part of the recovery program to provide the essential support for the economic recovery program. It is targeted at mobilizing all available resources to achieve maximum production in the vital sectors of the economy both in agriculture and industry. After a prolonged delay occasioned by bureaucratic bottlenecks, financial and logistical problems among others, the national mobilization committee (?and) the developmental agencies for the mobilization program have began to follow a clearly defined [word indistinct] program over the past year. In addition to laid down objectives in the program, the committee has also been called upon to perform certain emergency tasks including the resettlement of returnees, the rehabilitation of burned cocoa farms, the evacuation by GIHOC [Ghana Industrial Holding Corporation] for canning of vegetables throughout the country [as heard], in particular tomatoes, and the ongoing exercise of evaluating and transporting the food aid presented to the country by various donors. Over the past year work has began on what is only a minimal aspect of the entire program with a specific focus on agriculture. In the coming year, work will be advanced on other fronts for which there has now been sufficient preparation in the area of health, construction, redeployment, reafforestation and general local self-help.

Finally the import [as heard] program or the foreign exchange budget: It is estimated that Ghana will earn about $641.2 million from the export of commodities including energy. This represents an increase of about $161 million over 1983. The increase is accounted for mainly by higher earnings from cocoa exports resulting from the current relatively high world price of cocoa since the volume of cocoa export is expected to be lower than last year's.

Government Raises Prices of Petroleum Products

AB282248 Accra Domestic Service in English
2000 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] The Ministry of Fuel and Power today released new prices for petroleum products. A gallon of premium petrol is 55 cedis; regular, 50 cedis; kerosene, 30 cedis; and gasoil, 36 cedis.

A statement issued by the ministry explained that the adjustment in the prices follows the removal of the subsidies on petroleum products to enable the funding of increased expenditure on vital social sectors in education, health and rural development.

GUINEA

Political Bureau Statement on Sekou Toure Wake

AB280840 Conakry Domestic Service in French
1945 GMT 27 Mar 84

[Text] Here is a statement from the National Political Bureau concerning the organization of the wake that will be kept beginning at 1200 on 28 March 1984 at the People's Palace:
First group of honor: The members of this group are Mahmoudou Sy, Sekou Kaba, general commissioner;
Second group of honor: Moro Cisse, Serra Yakonde;
Third group: Ibrahima Fofana, Mamouna Toure;
Fourth group: Alafe Kourouma, Sekou Cissoko, Fode Mahmoudou Toure;
Fifth group: Kabourou Kerra, Taboure Diarra, Alias Kamara;
Sixth group: Dr Cisse Kamara, General Kouma Kourouma, Marcel Thos;

Seventh group: Moussa Sangare Gamara, Ibrahima Ba, Komenda Amin Toure;
Eighth group: Seidu Keita, Boubacar Diallo, Saramoussa Toure;
Ninth group: Zakaria Toure, Sekou Kaba, El-Hadj Salikou Toure;
Tenth group: El-Hadj Fode Soriba Kamara, Mamadou Samtil, Elou Diallo.

To each group must be added a member of each national committee, a member of each federal bureau of Conakry, and a deputy from the People's National Assembly. Every group will stay for a period of 30 minutes, and the rotation will continue until the time of the removal of the body. The members of the National Political Bureau will be permanently present in groups of five and in three groups made up as follows:

First: Moussa Diakite, Bai Toure, Faman Keita, Mamadou Keita, Abdoulaye Toure;
Second: Sekou Cheriff, Mamani Sangari, Djamba Kessede, Siaowo Balde, Moussa Diallo;
Third: Senainor Behanzin, Fily Cissoko, Dalema Beavogui, Dr Abdulaye Barri, Mamadou Mal Diari;

Comrade Lansana Beavogui and Damantang Camara will coordinate funeral arrangements.

Ready for production!

[Signed] The National Political Bureau.

Mauroy To Attend Sekou Toure Funeral for France

LD281051 Paris Domestic Service in French 1000 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] Premier Pierre Mauroy will represent France at the funeral of Guinean President Sekou Toure on 30 March. Mr Guy Penne, president of the republic's adviser on African affairs, will represent Francois Mitterrand. Christian Nucci, in charge of cooperation and development, will also be in the French delegation. During his trip to the United States, the president of the republic paid tribute to President Sekou Toure's great value.

NIGER

Kountche Message to Beavogui on Sekou Toure Death

AB280930 Niamey Domestic Service in French 1200 GMT 27 Mar 84

[Excerpts] Following the Guinean head of state's death, President Seyni Kountche has sent the following condolence message to Lansana Beavogui, prime minister of the People's Revolutionary Republic of Guinea. The message reads as follows:

We have just learned with great sorrow of the tragic death of President Ahmed Sekou Toure. Africa in general and Guinea in particular have lost the most famous pioneer in the struggle for independence and freedom, the most vibrant symbol of courage and human dignity, the most ardent advocate of solidarity and unity among peoples. [Passage indistinct] to preserve the undying memory of his friendly visit to the Republic of Niger and to join the great people of Guinea, of Africa, and of the international Islamic community so that the Almighty receives hin in peace into His Kingdom and accords him all His blessings and mercies. Amen.

Please, Mr Prime Minister, convey to the brotherly and deeply bereaved people of Guinea the deep sympathy as well the fraternal support that the Niger people, the Supreme Military Council [CMS], the cabinet, and myself express for them.

Signed: Brigadier Seyni Kountche, chairman of the CMS and head of state of the Republic of Niger

Government Will Not Toleratre Heresy, Minister Warns

AB281740 Paris AFP in French 1535 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] Niamey, 28 Mar (AFP)—Niger Minister Delegate for Interior Amadou Fiti Maiga has said that the government "will not tolerate any form of heresy." He said this today in Maradi (center-south of the country) while declaring open the fourth congress of the Islamic Association of Niger.

Making a tacit allusion to the recent bloody religious riots in the Nigerian city of Yola, the minister urged the participants of the congress "to remain constantly vigilant in order to avoid all kinds of deviation, fanatism, and the misinterpretation or faulty worship of the Islamic religion."

The minister also deplored the deterioration in the traditional method of teaching students the Koran, especially as large numbers of children in the big towns are left to themselves "without the help of 'wise marabouts' [Koranic teachers] to whose care they are entrusted for apprenticeship and education."

"This situation can no longer continue," the minister explained and asked the participants of the congress to suggest solutions to the government.

In addition to issues of national unity and security, the participants also discussed topics relating to the deterioration in morals, heritage, marriage, and divorce.

The Islamic Association of Niger, it was explained, is notably charged with the responsibility of protecting the interests of Islam, the religion practiced by almost all the people of Niger.

NIGERIA

Tribunal Prepares To Try Detained Politicians

Tribunal Members Sworn In

AB281445 Dakar PANA in English 1430 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] Lagos, 28 March (NAN/PANA) — members of the tribunal to try detained politicians will be sworn in today by chief of staff, Supreme Headquarters, Brig. Tunde Idiagbon, the *CONCORD* newspaper reported today.

According to the newspaper, the panel is expected to receive a guideline on how to go about the business of determining whether the detained politicians are innocent or guilty.

Among politicians whose fates are expected to be determined by the panel would be former Vice-President Alex Ekwueme, former governors, other top politicians and businessmen.

Idiagbon Briefs Tribunal

AB281731 Lagos NAN in English 1711 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] Lagos March 28 (NAN) — Members of special tribunals recently set up by the Federal Military Government were at Dodan Barracks today for briefing by the chief of staff, Supreme Headquarters, Brigadier Tunde Idiagbon. The briefing was held in camera.

The State House correspondent of the NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA (NAN) said that the 23 persons at the briefing included six high court judges and senior army, air force and naval officers.

Idiagbon To Lead Delegation to Sekou Toure Rites

AB281824 Lagos NAN in English 1602 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] Lagos, March 28 (NAN) — Nigeria is to be represented at the burial in Conakry on Friday of the late President Ahmed Sekou Toure of Guinea, a competent source at Dodan Barracks said today.

The delegation, which will be led by the chief of staff, Supreme Headquarters, Brig Tunde Idiagbon, will include the former head of state, retired Gen Olusegun Obasanjo and the minister of external affairs, Dr Ibrahim Gambari.

Meanwhile, the one-day visit of President Seyni Kountche of Niger Republic to Nigeria on Saturday has been postponed till April 4 because of the death of the Guinean leader.

Offer Made at UN To Help Solve Libya-Sudan Dispute

AB282131 Lagos NAN in English 1714 GMT 28 Mar 84

[By Lawrence Ukwu]

[Text] New York, March 28 (NAN) — Nigeria yesterday at the UN offered to assist in finding a peaceful solution to the present conflict between Libya and Sudan.

The New York correspondent of the NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA (NAN) reported that the offer was made by the country's permanent representative to the UN, retired Major General Joseph Garba, at yesterday's meeting of the Security Council on the Sudanese allegation that a Libyan plane had bombed the city of Omdurman on March 16.

Maj Gen Garba said that Nigeria, as a great champion and promoter of African unity, could not afford to remain indifferent to any development capable of leading to further tension in any part of Africa and which might have possible repercussion for international peace and security. "We accordingly feel strongly that any such developments should be addressed promptly in a fair and balanced manner before they assume dangerous proportions within the region," he said.

Maj Gen Garba appealed to both Sudan and Libya to seek solutions to their immediate differences within the established and recognised principles of international relations as well as in accordance with the charters of the UN and the OAU.

Earlier, the Sudanese foreign minister, Mr Muhammad Mubarak, had told members of the Security Council that Libya's bombing of Omdurman was a flagrant violation of the UN Charter. He said that the Libyan air raid was a serious act of blatant aggression which was a threat to the peace and security of the region.

The Libyan foreign minister, 'Ali 'Abd at-Turayki, said that the Sudanese allegations was a calculated attempt to divert attention from the growing internal strife in parts of Sudan.

The Security Council was scheduled to meet today at the instance [as received] of Libya to deliberate on the stationing of U.S. surveillance planes in Egypt.

Flight Crew Strike Ends; Services Resume

AB282140 Lagos Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] Nigeria airways this evening resumed normal flight services as pilots and flight engineers withdrew their 6-day industrial action. The current affairs manager of the Nigerian Airways, Mr Femi Ogunleye, who made this known, said the management was already studying the applications and past records of the officials. He said that 250 out of the 280 striking pilots and flight engineers signed the new undertaking for reabsorption. Mr Ogunleye added that signing the new undertaking was not a guarantee that they would all be reemployed.

The industrial action, which was at the instance [as received] of the Airline Pilots and Flight Engineers Association of Nigeria, was designed to back demands for better conditions of service. The airline has lost about 5 million naira since the strike started.

Iranian Official Ends Talks, Leaves for Guinea

AB232015 Paris AFP in English 1826 GMT 23 Mar 84

[Text] Lagos, March 23 [AFP] — Iranian Assistant Foreign and Economic Affairs Minister Hoseyn Kazempur Ardabili left here today at the end of a visit to Nigeria to continue his tour of West African states.

Mr. Ardabili had political talks here today with the Nigerian Foreign Minister Ibrahim Gambari about African matters such as South Africa, Namibia, Chad and the Western Sahara. They also discussed the Iran-Iraq war and the situation in Lebanon, he told journalists.

On the economic front, Mr. Ardabili said he had explained the Iranian point of view concerning the organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), of which both countries are members. Iran favours a crude price rise, arguing that the production level increase sought by numerous producers, including Nigeria, can only bring a fall in oil prices.

The assistant minister said the production quota should be attributed to countries as a function of their foreign curreny needs, notably depending on their population size. He also called for an international condemnation of Iraq over the use of chemical weapons, saying there had been more than 3,000 victims.

Mr. Ardabili, who has already visited Niger and Benin, is going on to Guinea and Sierra Leone.

404 Expatriate Bauchi Teachers To Be Let Go

AB231744 Lagos International Service in English 1630 GMT 23 Mar 84

[Text] The 404 expatriate teachers employed by the Bauchi State Government will not have their present contracts renewed. Reports said the decision not to renew the contracts followed a directive from the state's military governor, Brigadier Sani Sani, that all expatriate teachers in the post-primary schools in the state be released at the expiration of their contracts and qualified Nigerians employed.

The expatriates, mainly Asians and Filipinos, have between 6 months and 1 year for their contracts to last, because some of them had renewed their terms before the directive.

TOGO

OAU's Onu Meets With Eyadema on Summit

AB281811 Paris AFP in English 1445 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] Lome, March 28 (AFP) — The interim secretary general of the Organization of African Unity (OAU), Peter Onu, today said that he would attend the funeral of the late Guinean President Ahmed Sekou Toure in Conakry on Friday.

Mr Onu, who is on a tour of several African countries to prepare the next OAU summit, tentatively scheduled for Conakry in May or June, said here that he would not discuss the summit arrangements while in Guinea.

Mr Onu, who arrived in Lome on Monday, said he discussed with Togolese head of state Gnassingbe Eyadema the major issues confronting the OAU — the Chadian and Western Saharan conflicts and the latest developments in southern Africa. He arrived in Togo from Niger, where he had talks with head of state Seyni Kountche.

While still in Niamey, before the death of Mr Sekou Toure was known, he said he was confident that the OAU summit would take place, but added that it was up to the host country Guinea to set a definite date and send out the invitations.

Mr Onu is to go on to Cameroon, the Congo and Zaire before returning to OAU headquarters in Addis Ababa.

Ghana Delegation Head Speaks on Good-Neighborliness

AB282040 Lomes Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 27 Mar 84

[Excerpt] This morning at the presidency General Gnassingbe Eyadema received a Ghanaian delegation and the deputy director general of [words indistinct] for UNESCO, Henri Lopes. First to be received was the 6-member Ghanaian delegation led by Obed Asamoah, the secretary for foreign affairs. He spoke to the press about his meeting with the head of state:

[Begin recording in English followed by French translation] I saw your president to give him a message from his brother and friend, the chairman of the Provisional National Defense Council of Ghana. After that we held sincere and cordial talks on several common problems.

[Unidentified reporter] Mr Minister, yesterday you had an intensive working session with your Togolese counterparts, and we know that your visit to Lome falls within the framework of relations of good-neighborliness and cooperation between Togo and Ghana. Could you tell us the main issues discussed during this working session?

[Assamoah] As you have rightly said, our visit falls within the context of relations of good-neighborliness. As you know, our people have a lot in common. Therefore our governments usually meet to discuss the mutual interests of our two countries and how the people can live happily together, and as I said yesterday, we had very cordial and useful discussions with our Togolese counterparts. [end recording]

UPPER VOLTA

CNR Condemns 'Counterrevolutionary' Acts in Ghana

AB281516 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 0630 GMT 28 Mar 84

["Statement" by the National Council of the Revolution following "counterrevolutionary maneuvers" in Ghana and Upper Volta, issued on 27 March 1984 — read by Comrade Karambela Ablase, not further identified]

[Text] Revolutionary people of Upper Volta, for the fifth time in 2 years, counterrevolution has woefully failed in its attempt to overthrow the Ghanaian revolutionary power led by the Provisional National Defense Council [PNDC] headed by Comrade Jerry John Rawlings. The frequent attacks by Ghanaian reactionaries manipulated by their imperialist masters against the 31 December 1981 revolution in Ghana demonstrate that as the revolution expands and strengthens itself, counterrevolution attempts first to discredit and later to weaken the revolutionary power through continual harrassment before launching desperate assaults against it. The counterrevolutionary attempt on Friday, 23 March, in Ghana, perpetrated by mercenaries recruited and trained in neighboring and brotherly countries, was

carefully and methodically organized by imperialism which at the same time aimed at liquidating the Upper Voltan revolution through the landing of other mercenaries on 25 March — 2 days after overthrowing the revolutionary power in Ghana. The overthrow of our democratic and popular revolution was to be preceeded by social disorders carried out by the puppets in the National Union of African Teachers of Upper Volta [SNEAHV], financed and sustained in dollar currency. Thus, the SNEAHV counterrevolutionaries tried to faithfully execute their plan through their strike of last 20 and 21 March. They wanted to implement their Machiavellian plan of liquidating the Upper Voltan revolutionary movement. But in Ghana, as in Upper Volta, counterrevolution, with its hatred for the people and the arrogance that characterizes it, always ignores and never takes into account the commitment of the masses to the revolutionary movement and their determination to defend it at all costs.

This is why, in the face of the permanent mobilization of the masses and their unflinching desire to achieve and strengthen the revolution, imperialism and its puppets will always woefully fail in their diabolic and reactionary maneuvers, as they have seen at their own cost in Ghana and in Upper Volta.

However, the Ghanaian and Upper Voltan revolutionaries must know that the reactionaries are stubborn and that they always obstinately defend their class interests and never give up easily in the face of failures which they always see as temporary. This is why their puppet and counterrevolutionary organizations like the so-called Ghanaian Democratic Movement and the reactionary leadership of SNEAHV in the service of stateless men — like Joseph Ki-Zerbo, Michel Kafando, Frederick Girma, Kambole Jean-Claude and others — have constantly tried to overthrow the revolution by all means.

Thus, only 2 days after the woeful failure of their action against the democratic and popular revolution, the SNEAHV reactionaries, staunch supporters of imperialism, on the night of 23 to 24 March, tried to destroy the shops of [words indistinct] and other districts by criminally setting fire to them. All these acts show their clear bid to make our people hungry, turn them away from the revolution, and isolate the CNR and the revolutionary government before striking at them finally through the landing of mercenaries on 25 March.

Revolutionary people of Upper Volta, since the statement by the comrade commander of the high command, minister of national defense and veterans affairs, over the subversive activities of men like Jean-Bila, Kindo Usman Ismael, and Sib Joachim, one can now clearly see the vast plot by these reactionaries against the revolution. In the face of the effective solidarity between the ,of the determination of the Ghanaian and Upper Voltan people to defend their revolutions, imperialism has decided to liquidate simultaneously the two revolutions through the activities of stateless men and mercenaries.

The Ghanaian and Upper Voltan revolutions have just won another victory, with the woeful failure of the 20 and 21 March strike and pro-imperialist attempt of 23 March in Ghana. But the Ghanaian and Upper Voltan people must remain mobilized and continue to organize themselves better, in order to face other imperilaist aggressions. The committees for the defense of the revolution must redouble their vigilance and watch carefully — day and night — the behavior of counterrevolutionaries. They must be prepared to do away with them in order to defend and to ensure the impetuous advancement of our democratic and popular revolution. Fatherland or death, we will win!

Teachers Who Participated in Strikes Dismissed

AB231040 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 0630 GMT 23 Mar 84

[Text] In a statement made last night over our radio network, the National Council of the Revolution [CNR] announced the dismissal of all teachers of the National Union of African Teachers of Upper Volta [SNEAHV] who took part in the strikes of 20 and 21 March launched by the SNEAHV. Here is the CNR statement read by Lieutenant Hien Kilmite, deputy national secretary of the Committees for Defense of the Revolution:

[Begin recording] Revolutionary people of Upper Volta, after the 12 March 1984 statement by the commander in chief of the National Armed Forces High Command and minister of national defense and veterans affairs on the plot against the revolution, in which the reactionaries Jean Bila, Sib Joachim and Kindo Usman Ismael — who have been arrested — are indisputably in-volved, the reactionary leadership of the SNEAHV called for a strike action for 20 and 21 March 1984. Obviously, with this counterrevolutionary strike the SNEAHV clearly aimed at destabilizing the regime and facilitating the overthrow of the popular power in collaboration with their allies and stateless men like Joseph Ki Zerbo, Michel Kafando, Frederick Girma, Jean-Claude Kambole, and their imperialist masters. Just as obviously, the strike was doomed to fail in the face of the determination of our people to support and defend their democratic and popular revolution. Now that they have [passage indistinct]. Now that they are demonstrating a reactionary stubbornness and determination [words indistinct] the issue of the right to strike which they raised and wanted their allies of the Military Committee of Recovery for National Progress to suspend.

It is now the duty of the CNR and the revolutionary government to see to the reactions and demands of the popular masses, who are indignant at the repeated provocations of the desperate counterrevolutionaries of the SNEAHV. The CNR and the revolutionary government, faithful to their commitment to the people, always devoted to their cause, and always determined to defend their interests, have assumed all their responsibilities in the face of the revolution and all those that support and defend it. Consequently, they have decided the following:

As of 21 March 1984 at 2400 all the counterrevolutionaries who took part in the plot against the democratic and popular revolution by heeding the call for a strike action in the SNEAHV leadership have been dismissed from their jobs. However, the CNR and the revolutionary government want to state that these are only administrative measures aimed at keeping all enemies of the revolution away from the revolutionary state apparatus. The CNR and the revolutionary government, determined to defend at all costs the interests of the Upper Voltan people and taking the offensive, are determined to resort to extreme sanc-

tions against the reactionaries and the (?local agents) of imperialism who might be tempted to (?continue) in their counterrevolutionary acts.

The SNEAHV counterrevolutionaries and those from elsewhere will be taught a lesson. The CNR and the revolutionary government assure students and parents that adequate measures have been taken to ensure the normal functioning of schools when students return from their second-term vacation. Fatherland or death, we will win! [end recording]

Sankara Sends Message of Support to Rawlings

AB281120 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 0630 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] Comrade President Thomas Sankara has sent a message of support and congratulations to Comrade Jerry John Rawlings of Ghana following destabilization attempts organized by the enemies of free and sovereign peoples. This is what Comrade President Thomas Sankara wrote:

To Comrade Jerry John Rawlings, chairman of the PNDC [Provisional National Defense Council], head of state of Ghana. Comrade, once again, the revolutionary people of Ghana have demonstrated their maturity and determination to defend at all costs the gains of their revolution. We congratulate you. Your success in putting to flight the counterrevolutionaries and renagades in the pay of imperialism is a laudable event which must instill more confidence in the Ghanaian people in their struggle for their own freedom and their total emancipation as well as give them a similar confidence in the clear-minded leadership of the PNDC. The only thing the revolutionary people of Ghana could do was to mete out revolutionary violence to the insolent aggressiveness of bandits who received their just punishment.

The National Council for the Revolution lauds this fine example of firmness and reassures the brotherly people of Ghana of its constant support in the common struggle we launched against decadent imperialism and all its henchmen. Revolutionary Upper Volta deplores the fact that, in order to implement their hatred for the people and their interests, these stateless persons have found support from neighboring countries whose people also want to live in peace and complete freedom. We take the opportunity of this now illustrious event in the history of the Ghanaian people to state to you that the Upper Voltan revolution is prepared to give all the necessary assistance to maintain and consolidate the popular power in Ghana. The revolutionary soil of Upper Volta will never be a base for mercenaries acting against the people's interests.

Finally, please accept the renewed expression of my sincere congratulations and my wishes for the happiness and increased prosperity of the fighting people of Ghana. The future is bright for the people of the world. The fatherland or death, we will win!

Communique Issued at End of Cuban Minister's Visit

AB281610 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 0630 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] Comrade Isidoro Malmierca, Cuban minister of foreign affairs, has ended his visit to our country. At the end of this visit a joint communique was signed between the Cuban and Upper Voltan delegations.

This joint communique underlined the great friendship existing between the two countries in the areas of bilateral cooperation. The Cuban delegation praised the measures taken by the National Council of the Revolution to guarantee the national sovereignty of our country, while the Upper Voltan party positively appreciated the progress made by the Cuban people in the process of building a socialist society.

The two delegations unanimously condemned imperialist maneuvers aimed at sparking a world war. They condemned in particular the role of the United States in the arms race and world confrontation and reiterated their desire to strive for peace in the world.

Concerning the world situation, the Upper Voltan and Cuban delegations underlined the seriousness of the world economic situation and expressed their desire to strive for the creation of a new world economic order. On African political issues, they reaffirmed their support for people struggling for their independence and their dignity especially in Namibia, in Western Sahara and Chad. Concerning Latin America, they condemned the belligerent actions of the American imperialists against Nicaragua and the struggling Salvadoran patriots. The two parties expressed their support for the struggling people of Latin America and condemned the destabilizing actions of the United States.

ANGOLA

Sumbe Rally Protests UNITA Infiltration Attempt

MB290624 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 29 Mar 84

[Text] At a mass rally the day before yesterday, the Sumbe residents demonstrated their indignation toward the UNITA puppets who attempted to infiltrate that city 5 days ago. The mass rally in Sumbe was chaired by Kundi Paiama, chairman of the local military council of the 7th Political-Military Region. Kundi Paiama said that the determination of the Sumbe inhabitants prevented the fulfillment of the UNITA puppets' goals, and he appealed for increased vigilance to detect any new attempts of infiltration or of socioeconomic destabilization.

French Official Meets With Foreign Minister Jorge

MB281157 Luanda ANGOP in French 0925 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] Luanda, 28 March (ANGOP) — Paulo Teixeira Jorge, Angolan minister of foreign affairs, received in audience in Luanda yesterday Mr Leon Eeckhoutpe, president of the Cultural Affairs Commission of the French Senate, who is presently visiting the People's Republic of Angola. On the same day, the dean of the diplomatic corps received Marrack Goulding, the British ambassador to Angola, who delivered a message from the British minister of foreign affairs, Sir Geoffrey Howe.

LESOTHO

RSA-Backed Alliance Seen Encountering Problems

MB281436 Maseru Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] Political observers in Maseru report that the alliance formed by the South African foreign minister, Mr Pik Botha, out of some dissident politicians in Lesotho is continuing to have difficulties in getting off the ground.

It is understood that the two main difficulties which continue to face the alliance, made up of C.D. Molapo, Puka Chaolane, J.T. Mokotso, T. Mofolo, A. (Mofobelu), and S. Monaheng, are first, its rejection by all the political parties of Lesotho, and secondly, internal contradictions within the alliance itself. Whilst the Marematlou Freedom Party and the ruling Basotho National Party have publicly repudiated the alliance, it is understood that even the pro-South Africa leader of the United Democratic Party, Mr C.D. Mofeli, is virulently opposed to it.

The Basotholand Congress Party faction led by G. Kolisang and S. Moltamelle is reported to be equally hostile to the alliance. The political observers state that what is an even more serious problem for the alliance is the continued international quarreling about leadership and style of operation. It is understood that Puka Chaolane, C.D. Molapo, J.T. Mokotso, and T. Mofolo have not yet reconciled themselves to each other and that they have conflicting views on how to go about their work.

MOZAMBIQUE

Foreign Minister Chissano Comments on Japan Trip

MB281558 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] Mozambique Minister of Foreign Affairs Joaquim Chissano returned to Maputo today after a week-long visit to Japan. In Tokyo, Joaquim Chissano held talks with Japanese officials aimed at developing diplomatic and economic relations.

Speaking to national and foreign journalists in Maputo this morning, Chissano stressed that Mozambique and Japan are interested in developing economic and technical cooperation. Accordingly, specific projects in the fields of agriculture, fisheries, mineral research, industry, trade, health, and education will be signed in the near future. In the diplomatic field, the talks dealt with the situation in southern Africa. Japan stated that it would follow these events carefully.

According to Chissano, the Japanese press covered the Nkomati accord correctly. He had an opportunity to once more discuss the matter, and he clearly defined our stance with regard to the struggle against apartheid in South Africa. We are firm regarding the path of our socialist revolution, and the Nkomati accord is based on internationally accepted principles. Thus, Chissano said: I believe that this attitude has been well received by all Japanese sectors, including the businessmen with whom we talked.

NAMIBIA

Damara Council Invited To Rejoin Multiparty Conference

MB281756 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1710 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] Windhoek, March 28, SAPA — The privately initiated Multi-Party Conference (MPC), which seeks negotiated independence for SWA/Namibia, says the Damara Council is welcome to rejoin it, the MPC spokesman, Dr Lucas de Vries, said in Windhoek today.

In a press statement dealing with the withdrawal of the Damara Council on Monday, Dr de Vries said "the door remains open" for Mr Garoeb and the Damara Council "to come back" to the MPC.

Dr de Vries said the MPC abided by the "Windhoek declaration of basic principles," which political observers say is a government blue-print should the MPC acquire power.

The MPC reiterated its stance that United Nations Resolution 435 was "the only concrete independence plan" for the country. It said, however, that its speedy implementation was suspect and that every effort should be made to realise it.

The statement also dismissed as unfounded allegations that the MPC was an anti-SWAPO front, adding: "On the contrary, we

have on every occasion pointed out that SWAPO was welcome to join (the MPC)."

The Damara Council is the second party to leave. The Christian Democratic Party of Mr Hans Rohr left it earlier this year.

SOUTH AFRICA

Finance Minister Delivers Budget Speech in Assembly

MB281516 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] The minister of finance, Mr Owen Horwood, delivering his main budget in the House of Assembly this afternoon, announced that there will be no increase in personal tax, general sales tax, or in the price of fuel. However, he announced increases in customs and excise duties on a number of items, an increase in company tax, stamp duty on credit cards and automatic teletransactions, and the introduction of fringe benefits taxation later this year. Mr Horwood said moderate tax adjustments were unavoidable if the country was to maintain its policy of maintaining a sound balance of payments and reducing the rate of inflation. He said that a combination of a declining gold price, sluggish nongold exports, and unfavorable weather conditions had had adverse affects on the real growth rate of the economy, the balance of payments, and government revenue. In these circumstances, the South African economy had performed remarkably well and had shown a modest but meaningful recovery after the second quarter of 1983.

Mr Horwood announced increases in social, military, and civil pensions. In the case of social pensions and allowances, the concessions would apply from 1 October and would involve an increase in monthly pensions by 14 rands to 166 rands for whites, by 10 rands to 103 rands for coloreds and Asians, and by 8 rands to 65 rands for blacks. He also announced a bonus for social pensioners to be paid in May. This would amount to a single payment of 36 rands for whites, 29 rands for coloreds and Indians, and 22 rands for blacks. Military pensions would be increased by 10 percent from 1 April. Civil pensions would also be increased by 10 percent from 1 April. Mr Horwood said it had also been decided to give further relief to pensioners of the government's service pension fund who retired on or after 1 July 1973 but before 1 April 1981. They would receive a further increase of 10 percent with a minimum increase of 50 rands a month.

Mr Horwood said the continuation of the serious drought made it clear that more funds in the form of drought relief over and above the substantial amounts so far provided would be required. He said the minister of agriculture would make an important announcement in that regard in the next day or two. Mr Horwood announced that the interest subsidy on the carrier of a debt of farmers [as heard] with their agricultural cooperatives would be increased for 1984-85 season. There would also be a reduction in the rate of interest payable on production credit extended to farmers by the Agricultural Credit Board.

Mr Horwood announced that he had instructed the standing commission on taxation to advise him on the extent to which it might be desirable and practicable for a limited number of basic food items or all foods to be exempted from general sales tax. The commission will also consider whether or not these might be taxed at a lower rate and would advise the government on the resultant loss of revenue and as well as administrative problems that would arise. The standing commission was at present reassessing the advisability or otherwise of the separate taxation of married people and Mr Horwood said he hoped to receive its report early next year. He warned, however, against premature expectations.

Mr Horwood said that 3,755 million rands had been allocated for defense. This represented an increase of 21.4 percent. Defense's share of the total budget remained at about 15 percent. The minister said that recent peace initiatives might have raised premature hopes that defense expenditure would fall. He said this was not in line with the obvious necessity for an effective national defense. Mr Horwood also announced that the total budgeted expenditure for the 1984-85 financial year would be about 11.7 percent higher than for the 1983-84 year. He said the aggregate expenditure would be 24,945 million rands.

Referring to South-West Africa, the minister announced that the budgeted figure for aid to the territory would be cut from 348 million rands to 318 million rands.

Excerpts of Horwood Speech

MB290930 Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 29 Mar Business Day Budget Supplement pp 1-20

[Excerpts] Since I introduced last year's Budget the economic situation in South Africa has been adversely affected by a number of largely unforeseen extraneous developments, over which we have no control.

The developments have come to pose quite exceptional challenges to the authorities and have made the drawing up of this my 10th Budget exceedingly difficult and its contents crucially important. To meet the challenges confronting us, disciplined action is required. Today's Budget constitutes a vital part of the required policy response.

The first extraneous development that affected the South African economy adversely was the marked decline in the gold price. After reaching a peak of over $511 an ounce on February 15, 1983, the gold price averaged only $424 an ounce during 1983 as a whole and a mere $384 thus far in 1984.

A second unfavourable development was the sluggish recovery in world demand for those commodities which constitute South Africa's main exports other than gold. Our non-gold exports accordingly remained relatively low during most of 1983 and only began to show a rising tendency towards the close of the year and during the early months of 1984.

A third adverse development was the worsening of the drought. The welcome rains in many parts of the country during the fourth quarter of 1983 brought temporary relief, but subsequently the situation deteriorated again and assumed crisis proportions in several areas.

The combination of a declining gold price, sluggish non-gold exports and unfavourable weather conditions naturally had adverse effects on the real growth rate of the economy, the balance of payments and Government revenue.

Where most developing countries today are struggling to extricate themselves from the massive foreign indebtedness which is threatening to overwhelm them, I am profoundly grateful that I can inform the House that South Africa has no foreign debt problem. South Africa's debt service ratio, that is, the ratio which interest payments bear to export proceeds, is about 6 per cent, which in all conscience is very low according to international standards.

I now wish to turn to the Government's Accounts for the financial years 1983-84 and 1984-85 but, before doing so, just a note about the Budget once the new Constitution takes effect. It is clear that, when that happens, the traditional unitary Budget will give place to four separate Budgets — one relating to General Affairs and presented to the full Parliament, and the other concerning Own Affairs and presented to the respective Houses.

The Parliamentary procedures involving financial arrangements will clearly undergo far reaching changes. This is a matter which has received and continues to receive the urgent attention of the Cabinet and the Treasury. I can assure the House that the new procedures will be introduced as smoothly as possible and, of course, without loss or weakening of fiscal control. What needs to be clearly understood is that, whatever the system, the fundamental principles of public finance demand that there can be only one Treasury and only one Minister of Finance.

The peace initiatives of the Honourable the Prime Minister may raise premature hopes that expenditure on defence will immediately fall. Such a view, of course, hardly accords with the obvious need in the modern world for means of effective national defence. But, if — as we all fervently trust — the initiatives prove to be enduring, a downward trend in real and proportional defence expenditure may certainly be expected in due course.

I have proposed R3,755 million for Defence. This is 21.4 per cent over the amount voted in 1983-84, but honourable members should note that, in the light of Defence's particular cost escalation problems as well as of the carry-through effect of the recent adjustments in staff salaries, this increase will barely maintain the existing levels of expenditure in real terms.

At present four cents of the customs or excise duty on a litre of petrol, distillate fuel (diesel) or residual fuel oil is paid into the State Oil Fund, and this has been utilised mainly for the financing of Sasol Two and Sasol Three. As the need for further financing is now diminishing, the Government had decided that, at least for 1984-85, only two cents of this amount should be paid over to the State Oil fund. The remaining two cents will acrue to the Exchequer.

The success of the financial strategy I have outlined today will, of course, also depend in large measure on the extent to which the increase in Government spending is kept within the limits set in the Budget. I believe that the strenuous efforts being made to contain Government expenditure will prove successful. But if they do not, I shall have no alternative but to bring about the necessary further tax adjustments.

'Ad Hoc Budget' Assailed

MB281820 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] The official opposition spokesman of finance, Mr Harry Schwarz, says the ordinary South African will be bearing the brunt of Mr Horwood's budget. The government had chosen to raise taxes at a time when individuals were suffering financially and the economy was in difficulty and the government had left hardly anything untaxed. Mr Schwarz said that although the increase in social pensions was welcome, it was lower than the current inflation rate, which he expected to increase in the months ahead. Today's budget was an ad hoc budget which did not deal with long-term planning for South Africa. Mr Schwarz said he was particularly concerned about the plight of the small company which had to cope with high interest rates, increased company tax, and an economy with reduced demand.

Opposition Parties Attack Budget

MB281830 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] The Conservative Party spokesman on finance, Mr (Jan van Zyl), said the increase in expenditure made it appear that the government had lost control over its spending. He said the allocation of 155 million rands for drought relief was hopelessly inadequate. Mr (van Zyl) asked why social pensioners had to wait until October to receive their increases. He said the increased tax on a number of items would result in a rise in the cost of living.

The New Republic Party spokesman on finance, Mr (George Bartlett), said in his budget reaction it was clear that Mr Horwood had been caught unprepared by the drought and the continuing recession.

SWAZILAND

Foreign Minister Dlamini Hails RSA Water Agreement

MB281713 Mbabane Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] The minister for foreign affairs, Mr R.V. Dlamini, has said that Swaziland welcomes the agreement between the Republic of South Africa and her neighbors concerning the proposed construction of dams on the Limpopo, Komati, and Lomati Rivers.

A press statement issued by the Ministry for Foreign Affairs this afternoon states that Mr Dlamini said water was the basic necessary commodity for life, and as such knows no international barriers, he said. He stated that various national disasters, such as the recent cyclone and floods, demanded and showed the value of international cooperation. He said similarly the urgent need for the construction of dams for the conservation and supply of water also demands similar cooperation between states.

The minister further stated that such cooperation, necessary for the survival of our people, should not be obstructed because of different ideologies and politics of the countries concerned.

KaNgwane Chiefs Meet at Foreign Ministry

MB290949 Mbabane THE SWAZI OBSERVER in English 29 Mar 84 pp 1, 3

[Text] More than 30 chiefs from KaNgwane yesterday gathered at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to be told how Swaziland had gone with the land talks with South Africa. They wondered why the talks were slow moving and for how long they will remain "foreigners" in their own land. They have come to urge the government not to slow down on the incorporation issue and stated that they wanted to "come home."

The chiefs, who included some members of the Royal Family based in KaNgwane, are hear to be told why the negotiations are taking a long to materialise. [as published]

Swaziland is presently waiting the findings of the Rumpff Commission presently investigating the KaNgwane claim. Recently, the Commission suggested that an opinion poll be held in KaNgwane to find out majority thinking towards the incorporation of the homeland.

It was also reliably learnt yesterday that some of the chiefs could not attend the foreign affairs meeting because of passport problems. The chiefs, also accompanied by the secretary of the KaNgwane Council of Chiefs, Mr David Lukhele, came from Embhuleni, Mamelodi, Enkhaba, Kamsogwala and Emjindini. More are expected to arrive in the country today.

ZIMBABWE

Government Mum on Hwange Power Station Blast

MB291041 (Clandestine) Radio Truth in English 0430 GMT 29 Mar 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] What the devil is going on down at Hwange? Over 2 weeks ago a terse statement from the ESC [Electrical Supply Corporation] owners announced that there had been an explosion at our largest coal-fired power station, in which 1 person had been killed and 16 injured. Since then there has been an eerie silence from our usually vociferous government spokesmen and the local news media.

The explosion reputedly damaged all three of the power plant's boilers, and the whole affair has been referred to by specialists in the industry as a hidden catastrophe. Utility companies throughout Zimbabwe have been ordered to shed power, and the Umnyati Power Station — closed last year — has been reopened. Manufacturing companies in Bulawayo and Harare have been asked to cut back on power usage. But no one seems to know or cares to admit the severity of the crisis, or how long it will last.

There have been none of the usual hysterical allegations blaming the so-called Super-ZAPU, or some South African destabilization plot. More than a quarter of the country's power output goes offstream in an explosion and not a word from our officials. Could it be that ZIPRA has carried out a major act of sabotage and no one in government wants to concede it? Such an admission would indicate that our security arrangements at a very sensitive installation leave much to be desired, to say the least of it. It would also infer that the local population has not yet been totally cowed by the notorious 5th Brigade atrocities. What is even more disturbing is that any suggestion that ZIPRA are active again in the Hwange area could do untold harm to our tourist industry, which has not fully recovered from previous dissident activity in that area. All speculation, it is true, but in the absence of any official explanation, rumors are bound to fly around. Maybe Col Dyke could tell us what happened, as he passed to Hwange only a day or two before the incident while on his ego trip, otherwise called fund raising for our Olympic team.

Mind you, although it is to be condemned, it would not be at all suprising if ZIPRA had decided to exact some vengeance and retribution for the deliberate starvation of thousands of their fellow Ndebeles. Munangagwa, announcing the deaths of a number of rebels in the curfew area, said those killed were all carrying wild berries, a sign that local peasants had been unable to give them food. In the same breath he had the audacity to allege that there had been no deaths from starvation in the province, and that the area of the curfew was the most properly serviced in terms of food distribution. To top it all, he had the gall to accuse Nkomo of lying about the charges of deliberate starvation. But Ndebele peasants, clergymen, commercial farmers, and military sources have said that food shipments into the drought-stricken area were being stopped by security forces. The usual source of relief in such times, the charity of relatives who work in cities and mines, had been cut off.

In Bulawayo, for the first time in months there was a surplus of mealie meal in the shops, a sure sign that the food embargo is still in effect. Munangagwa, our supposed minister of state, is the one who is lying.

Coming back to the power station mystery, if one discounts the sabotage scheme, then another possibility is sheer inefficiency on the part of some newly trained electrical engineering fund. There was an example of the sort of thing that can happen in Gweru recently. An unfortunate comrade, George Khumalo, was electrocuted when he touched a water tap which had become live because a council employee disconnected the wrong wire when sent to cut off electricity in the comrade's house. This expert disconnected the neutral wire, leaving the live wire passing electricity into the water pipes. I think I will get my mother-in-law to turn on the water this evening.